



AARON YEO

**YOU CAN PUT THE PAST AWAY** *The Gateway* previews a documentary about suicides on the High Level Bridge, page 11.

## SU executive wages to increase next year

AARON YEO  
News Staff

Starting next year, the Students' Union executive members will each receive a raise, earning \$33,000 annually, up from their current honorarium of \$25,668.

The raise comes after a motion passed in Students' Council Tuesday. The president and the four vice presidents of the SU work on a full-year contract and their annual honoraria are divided up and paid monthly. They receive no health or academic benefits, but do receive discounts at SU-run businesses.

The Council Administration Committee (CAC) had begun discussions about increasing the honoraria in June, and according to Craig Turner, Board of Governors' Representative and chair of CAC, the current pay levels were in need of an update.

"I don't want people to feel that they are not able to run because they can't afford it. That's not what our organization should stand for," Turner said.

He doesn't believe that the increased honoraria will have the adverse effect of making the positions too comfortable.

**"I don't want people to feel that they are not able to run because they can't afford it. That's not what our organization should stand for."**

**CRAIG TURNER**  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPRESENTATIVE

"The intent of this motion is not to encourage people to run for the money. I would never encourage us to promote such a policy and I don't believe that the number we're looking at here does that," Turner said.

PLEASE SEE **EXECUTIVES** • PAGE 3

## Student proposal could limit fees

Minister of Advanced Education examining document on mandatory non-instructional fees

SIMON YACKULIC  
Deputy News Editor

A proposal being considered by the provincial government could prevent the University of Alberta from imposing mandatory non-instructional fees without student approval in the future.

Students' Union Vice President (External) Aden Murphy explained that a proposal in front of the Minister of Advanced Education and Technology Doug Horner would ensure that mandatory non-instructional fees would have to be approved by Students' Council. If council doesn't approve the fee, it could go to referendum.

The Common Student Space, Sustainability, and Security (CoSSS) fee of \$145 per term currently being charged is an example of a non-instructional mandatory fee at the University of Alberta. The University of Calgary also charges students \$450 per year in such fees. Student lobby groups across the province are now asking Horner to put restrictions on these levies in the future.

Murphy said that the proposal was put together through a collaboration

between various groups, which he hopes will help the minister make a favourable decision.

"The Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) position is that we've wanted to see all mandatory non-instructional fees go to referendum of the students who are paying them," Murphy said, explaining that CAUS worked with other Alberta student lobby groups to present a unified proposal.

"We got an agreement together with the rest of the Alberta Students' Executive Council and the Alberta Graduate Council and that's something that the minister really appreciated — us having a consensus among the student groups."

Kevin Donnan, a spokesperson from the Ministry, said that Horner will be studying the proposal further, but so far, he likes what he sees.

"At first glance, it appears that the student proposal is definitely on the right track. We anticipate the minister will be providing some additional written feedback in the near future," Donnan said. "He is very enthused by what the students have brought forward."

## Campus food bank use increasing

ALI CHURCHILL  
News Staff

Students at the University of Alberta are turning to the Campus Food Bank in greater numbers this year, reflecting a larger national trend.

The HungerCount, Canada's only annual survey on food bank use nationwide, recently published new statistics showing that 71 per cent of Canadian food banks saw an increase of nine per cent between March 2009 and March 2010, with almost 870,000 people turning to food banks in March 2010.

This rise is reflected on campus, where the recession is putting pressure on students already burdened by tuition fees and the cost of living.

Ashley Seibert, executive director of the U of A's Campus Food Bank, explained that food bank use is increasing faster on campus than the national average. Between 2008-2009 and 2009-2010, there was a 20 per cent increase in campus food bank usage.

Last year, more than 2,000 students used the food bank, which provides hampers designed to provide four days' worth of food.

While in previous years students were able to make enough money during the summer months to support themselves in the school year, Seibert points to the recent slump in the job market as a major reason for the increase in food bank use over



DAN MCKECHNIE

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT** Seibert said there has been a rising demand on campus.

the past few years.

Seibert explained that there is usually a jump in usage in September and October while people are waiting for student loans to come in. In addition, she said the end of winter semester can be a busy time.

"People access our services as they start to deplete their resources at the end of the semester," Seibert said. "We have traditionally seen a spike in both

users and in donations, which is great because it balances each other out."

At the U of A, 29 per cent of students using the food bank in the 2009-2010 year relied on student loans as their primary income, while The HungerCount reports that 1.6 per cent of Canadian households nationwide are relying on student loans as a primary income.

PLEASE SEE **FOOD BANK** • PAGE 4

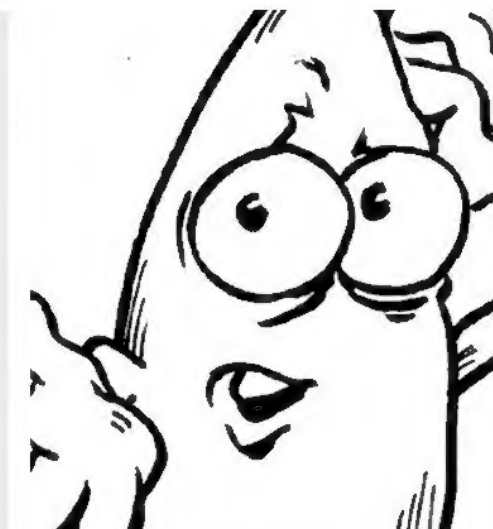
**inside  
THIS  
ISSUE**



### O Tannenbaum

Christmas trees have a long journey from tree lot to living room. *The Gateway* gets festive.

**FEATURE, PAGE 10**



### It comes full banana

You'll laugh, you'll cry as this semester's hit comic, *Single Dad Banana*, comes to an end.

**COMICS, PAGE 19**

### Happy Holidays!

*The Gateway* will be taking a winter break as the fall term draws to a close. Regular issues will return with classes in January, but look for something a little different on stands next Tuesday.



## THE GATEWAY

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## colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, HP Scanjet flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of FENICE, Joanna, Kepler and Whitney. The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's songs of choice are Vince Guaraldi's "Linus and Lucy" and Evilynine and Aesop Rock's "Crooked."

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“

I have no intention of being the VP Ops-Tri.”

## COUNCIL FORUM

Written by Siwei Chen

*Students' Council meets every second Tuesday in the Council Chambers in University Hall at 6 p.m. Council meetings are open to all students. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 11, 2011, where free food will be provided for all attendees.**As this was the last meeting of the semester, council provided a delicious holiday spread, complete with roasted turkey, mashed potatoes, and coffee. So if you're at all interested in student politics, swing by, fill your belly, and get your democracy on.*

## ELECTION SELECTION

Speaker Steven Dollansky outlined the dates for the upcoming March elections. The nomination package deadline for the Executive and Board of Governor elections will be February 11, 2011, with elections occurring on March 9 and 10. Students' Council and General Faculties election nomination packages will be due March 14, 2011 and elections will take place on March 24 and 25.

## MY CASA, YOUR CASA

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) gave council a presentation on the governance, communications, and advocacy of the organization. National Director Zach Dayler and Member Relations Officer Jessica Séguin outlined how CASA membership

fees are used. The U of A pays a membership fee of \$46,500 per year for services like advocacy, research, public awareness, and three conferences each year. Dayler and Séguin encouraged students to speak to their student representatives and engage with their local MPs.

## ENG FEES

President of the Engineering Students' Society Claire Smith presented a proposal to re-establish their Faculty Association Membership Fee at \$4 per semester per student starting in the Fall 2011 term. This fee funds programs such as Geer Week, the engineer's student handbook, engineering discipline clubs, student groups, competitions, and first-year orientation. Students have the option of opting out of paying this fee; however, according to Smith, no student has ever done so.

## EARLY BREAK

Students' Union President Nick Dehod gave a presentation on a proposed fall reading week. Out of two potential logistical models, the favoured one was to start on the Wednesday in August preceding Labour Day, with the last day of exams being December 22, maintaining the number of instructional days in the fall at 63. Dehod raised his concerns about the benefits of a week off when compared to the costs for students such as disrupted summer plans, difficulties of renting before September 1, and overlap with summer jobs. Dehod's goal is to discuss the proposal as much as possible before it moves forward, and he hopes to ask a related plebiscite question in the next election.

## STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by  
Nick Frost and Dan McKechnie*As you may be aware, SU  
Executive salaries are being  
increased from \$26,000 to  
\$33,000 per year.*

## Do you think this is fair? Why or why not?

**Kellen Stenger**  
Business IV**Geoff Ryan**  
Graduate Studies

I think if they're getting an increase, they probably deserve it because they have one of the biggest schools in the country, right? I think the biggest in Western Canada for sure, so they probably have a pretty good workload.

Isn't it strange that any administrative position would be increasing their salaries when the English department doesn't have phones? That's all.

**Laura Adkins-Hackett**  
Economics IV**Daniel Tiam**  
Engineering II

It sounds hard because we are in a time of cutbacks, so it's a bit unfair for that. But people can only make their living, so it's probably fair as long as they have reasons.

I think they have a lot of work to do. They do run the whole student body, which is like 30,000 people. So, sure, yeah.

## QUESTION PERIOD

Chief Returning Officer Jaskaran Singh answered a question about the steps taken to update the elections program code to correct the error in the tie-breaking mechanism, following the Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement Board's first ruling of the school year. Singh stated that the algorithm was corrected almost immediately after the hearing.

Vice President (Operations and Finance) Zach Fentiman was asked why he was no longer moving Bill 27 in first reading, which would have repealed last year's controversial Bill 33. He informed council that after some discussion with councillors and reflection over the weekend, he didn't feel that he could present the motion as it had been intended.

Dehod elaborated on a question concerning the state of the Students' Union Building's elevators. He said that the university manages all of the elevators in the buildings; however, Dehod further stated that it seemed the only SU representative who could do anything about the elevators was Board of Governors Representative Craig Turner. Dehod opted to defer his speaking turn to Fentiman, who deferred to Turner for further elaboration; however, the Speaker deemed Fentiman's deferral as out of line and Turner did not speak on this topic.

A question about the steps taken to organize an undergraduate research conference was posed to the Vice President (Academic) James Eastham. Eastham stated that this event would not occur this school year because he was unsure if one could be held that they could be proud of. He

recognized the success of the University of Calgary's event and will work to set the stage to hold a similar one in the next fall semester.

An inquiry regarding the SU's influence on a possible new university logo was answered by both Eastham and Turner. Eastham said that the SU does not have a position on it, and Turner further stated that in discussions held in the General Faculties Council (GFC), polling suggested that the particular design was a clear favourite. However, if anyone was concerned, Turner welcomed council's feedback.

Dehod answered a question about a new SU website scheduled to launch in January. He hopes that it will be more adaptable and be a good investment that lasts more than just a few years.

Vice President (External) Aden Murphy fielded a question concerning Elections Alberta's plans for counting eligible voters, to occur in August 2011, and what thoughts he has on the difficulty for students to participate, due to the timing with the end of summer and transition back to school. Murphy explained that he has already brought this up to Elections Alberta; however, at this point, he was unsure how much it would be pushed back. He had further meetings with ministers to discuss ways to get more students to vote.

## COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIPS

Board of Governors Representative Craig Turner and Science Councillor Kim Ferguson each received a \$500 council scholarship through a secret preferential ballot passed around at the end of the council meeting.



AMIRALI SHARIFI

## LRT EXPANSION PLANS

The City of Edmonton unveiled the details of the new west and southeast LRT expansions last week, outlining where stops will be and how they will integrate with the current system.

The new lines will be a change for city residents, used to the elevated LRT systems and underground lines.

"Our team is planning new LRT lines that are completely different from what Edmontonians are used to," said Bob Boutilier, general manager of transportation for the city. "The new southeast

and west lines will use new low-floor technologies to quickly move commuters from Mill Woods all the way through downtown to Lewis Estates."

The southeast line will run from Churchill Station south across the river, ending at Mill Woods Town Centre. A new stop for the west line will start at a MacEwan "Campus" stop and head past West Edmonton Mall to Lewis Estates. The proposal is to have the section between the Misericordia Hospital and West Edmonton Mall on an elevated track, going over 170th Street.

The city hosted a number of open houses earlier this week, and the plans will go to the city's Transportation and Public Works Committee on December 8, with further planning happening in early 2011.

—Justin Bell, Managing Editor



# Critics call for repeal of bill limiting referenda

SIMON YACKULIC  
Deputy News Editor

Some students are feeling slighted after a recent decision at Students' Council not to repeal last year's controversial Bill 33, which limits referenda.

A poster campaign has sprung up on campus calling a section of Bylaw 3000 "the selfish bylaw" after Vice President (Operations and Finance) Zach Fentiman withdrew his motion at Students' Council on Tuesday night to repeal the bill. Bill 33, introduced after last election's failed Millennium Villages campaign, blocks any referendum question that wouldn't have undergraduate students as its primary beneficiary.

McCormack said.

Amalrai, who said she only found out that an amendment to the bill wasn't being put forward two hours before the council meeting, expressed concern that with Fentiman withdrawing his motion, the bill can't be repealed until the next council meeting on January 11. This will put pressure on the group if they still hope to try and get a referendum question on the ballot.

"It won't give us enough time to submit the question after that and still collect the 6,000 signatures," Amalrai said. "We'll only have a one-week window, as opposed to the four weeks we would have had."

To get a referendum question on the general election ballot, an interested



DAN MCKECHNIE

IT'S NOT YOU, IT'S ME Posters went up after Fentiman withdrew his motion.

33 on the agenda, he realized over the weekend that he was still undecided as to whether he wanted it passed. He was initially on board because he felt that Bill 33 hadn't been clear and that in recent discussions it had come to his attention that there were different interpretations over what "primary benefit" would actually mean.

"I was in conversation with several members of council who asked me questions over the weekend about the rationale for the bill and I started to really consider if I would vote in favour. When you move a motion you're locked into being in favour, and I would honestly rather have had somebody else move it in place of me and still have had the discussion," Fentiman said.

"At the end of the day I had to withdraw it, but I do expect a form of it will arise at the next meeting. Essentially, I was hearing arguments from people over the weekend that made me want to at least have an option of voting for

or against."

Fentiman noted that council passed his motion to strike a Dedicated Fee Unit Task Force, which will be tasked with examining the legislation and making recommendations to council by March 8.

Amalrai and McCormack said that they were going to be launching a campaign to repeal the bill. As of Wednesday morning, there were signs around campus calling the relevant section of Bylaw 3000 "the selfish bylaw."

"We're going to start with a poster campaign so that the student body knows that there is a bill that is limiting their rights in some way," Amalrai said.

"I think it would make a lot of people uncomfortable that their right to referendum is limited in that way, because the whole point of a referendum is to go against what the representatives may feel."

**"We went out of our way to cooperate and find a solution, and we thought we had one, and now we have nothing."**

MARK MCCORMACK  
MILLENNIUM VILLAGES ORGANIZER

Mark McCormack and Valentina Amalrai were involved in co-ordinating the last Millennium Villages referendum and have been distributing the posters on campus. While Bill 33 was seen as blocking Millennium Villages, they hoped to initiate a new referendum this year and said that Fentiman's retraction blindsided them.

"Now that Zach withdrew his motion, we're actually out of time. It's extremely unfair because we went and talked to them, very politely, and tried to negotiate. It seemed like they were willing to do that and then at the last minute, when you have no way of fighting back, they withdraw it. We went out of our way to cooperate and find a solution, and we thought we had one, and now we have nothing,"

party must first approach the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) with the intent of their question, which he will then forward to the bylaw committee. The bylaw committee then proposes the wording of the question to council, which can accept or amend the wording.

After council approves a referendum question, the student group then has until February 1 to collect signatures from 15 per cent of the student body, unless council endorses the referendum and waives the signature requirement. According to CRO Jaskaran Singh, it isn't uncommon for groups to collect signatures during the month of January.

According to Fentiman, while he had initially put a motion to repeal Bill

## Executive salaries will be on par with other unions: Turner

EXECUTIVES ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Other student association executives in Alberta receive a yearly wage of anywhere from \$20,000 to \$35,000 as remuneration. At the University of Lethbridge, executives receive \$21,600, while Grant MacEwan University and Mount Royal University executives are paid \$35,000. Turner says he's confident that the proposed \$33,000 is a suitable balance when compared to other universities.

Debate on the motion lasted for an hour, as many councillors were on board with a pay increase, but not everyone could agree on the amount. Some expressed their concern with the budget implications, as the total increase for the five executives means an extra \$36,660 a year being spent.

"It is a fairly large increase, so we didn't want to go too far," said Turner.

"But we also wanted to ensure this was an increase we felt is sustainable, so we don't have to come back in a year's time and top it up with another couple thousand, or whatever the case may be."

Vice President (Operations and Finance) Zach Fentiman responded to the concerns by saying the funds will be taken into consideration when planning the budget. He explained that revenues are expected to increase for next year's budget and some expenses will change, but they could find money for the raise.

"We have great opportunities to incorporate this into the 2010-2011 budget. I'm not worried at all about incorporating this level of increase into the budget," Fentiman said.

Vice President (External) Aden Murphy, who voted against the motion, was not convinced the raise to \$33,000 was needed.

"I wouldn't say there's necessarily a very strong correlation between amount of pay and the quality of the executives," Murphy said.

"I don't think that our current pay is inhibiting people from running."

As the executive are not paid on an hourly basis, they do not have regular schedules, resulting in a set income. Turner said that CAC did look at implementing by-the-hour work weeks, but the change turned out to be impractical because of the irregularity of the executive hours, with meetings and other events at unusual times.

"Unlike most full-time positions, [if] you need additional income, you can take a part-time job, [but] as an executive, that is extremely, extremely difficult, if not impossible in many cases, just because of the workload of being an executive member," Turner said.

Fentiman also claimed that "most executives do end up working at minimum sixty hours a week."

The changes will come into effect for next year's executive committee, and will be adjusted every year according to the Consumer Price Index.



AARON YEO

FOR THE GOOD OF THE MANY President Nick Dehod outlined his fall reading week proposal to Students' Council on Tuesday night.

## campus digest

Compiled by Alexandria Eldridge

### WELCOME TO U OF A

The University of Alberta has signed a memorandum of understanding with Iraq's Ministry of Education that will allow the U of A to host a portion of 2,000 Iraqi students who will be going to universities around the world. The U of A is one of four Canadian destinations for these students.

### INFECTIOUS DONATION

Last week, drug company GlaxoSmithKline Inc. donated \$5 million to the Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology. The GSK Virology Research Support Endowment Fund will go towards supporting scientists studying viruses and viral infections within the institution, and will be put towards day-to-day operations and maintenance of laboratory facilities.

### SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

The new David Johnston Law Scholarship, starting in 2011, will award two \$10,000 scholarships to one student from the U of A and one from the University of Calgary. Recipients will be selected based on academic accomplishments and community service.

### CLUBROOT DANGERS

A U of A study has shown that clubroot is spreading among canola due to wet conditions, with 66 new cases in a survey of 341 fields. Clubroot prevents canola's uptake of nutrients and water and can stay in the soil for up to 20 years. It is the most feared disease among canola producers.

### MORE CANADA RESEARCH CHAIRS

The U of A was awarded four new Canada Research Chairs last week, as well as 10 renewals of previous chairs, worth a total of \$11.5 million from the federal government. Each of the new CRCs are Tier Two, meaning they receive \$500,000 to be paid over five years. The new CRCs are Duane Froese in northern environmental change, Marcello Tonelli in optimal care of people with chronic kidney disease, Tany Berry in physical activity promotion, and Lars-Oliver Klotz in pharmaceutical sciences. In total, the U of A has 91 research chairs worth an annual amount of \$13.1 million.

### DEPRESSION CONNECTION

A U of A researcher has found that treating depression may be key in preventing the spread of HIV in South Africa. Ian Colman and Mzikazi Nduna from the U of A's School of Public Health have found that risky sexual behaviour in young people, such as not using a condom, is exacerbated by depression. The researchers believe treating depression could have positive effects on stopping the spread of sexually transmitted diseases.

### EXERCISE AND BALANCE

A U of A clinical professor has found that exercise plays a key role in improving the quality of life for patients with multiple sclerosis. MS affects the ability of nerves to communicate with one another, causing muscle weakness and difficulty with co-ordination. According to Dr. Brad Stewart, exercise can improve the fatigue level of MS patients better than drugs.

### BEAUTY KINGS

Some U of A Pharmacy students held a Mr. Pharmacy pageant and silent auction to fundraise for prostate cancer yesterday. The event had a best and worst moustache contest, a talent contest, and a beach-wear modelling contest, and was put on by the Alberta Pharmacy Students' Association.



# Education grads facing job shortage

ZAINEB HUSSEIN  
News Writer

Education graduates will be facing fewer job opportunities this spring as Edmonton Public Schools (EPS) has substantially decreased their teacher supply list.

The teacher supply list is a list of possible employees that EPS draws from when hiring for positions including substitute teachers, on-call teachers, and both long-term and short-term teaching positions. Edmonton Public Schools is the largest school board in the area, meaning the effects will be far-reaching for students. Jane Sterling, a media consultant for EPS, said that the teacher supply list in 2009 had 1,600 to 1,800 employees, but this number has declined to 1,200 employees for next year.

"What was happening is that a lot of teachers were going on the supply list, but saying I can't work Monday, or I can't work Fridays, so not a lot of flexibility. What they have done is really tightened it up," Sterling said.

Sterling does not perceive the decline of the teacher supply list as a problem, but as solution. She contends that the amount of teachers on the present supply list creates a more adequate and efficient system because of the increased strictness surrounding who is accepted onto the list. It also provides higher quality of education for EPS students.

"If we had a Physics 30 teacher that was away ill, what we try and do is find a retired teacher on a substitution list to come and cover, who has the same experience, so the continuity in teaching. We don't want someone



SAM BROOKS

**TOO MUCH TO HANDLE** The Faculty of Education may have more graduates than there are jobs for next year.

who's going to waste the students' time and their own," she said. "We hire the very best teachers possible."

This provides those with experience and seniority to be hired over teachers without those credentials, creating an internal hiring system. However, this can make it difficult for those without experience to break into EPS. Sterling recommends new education grads seek employment in realms outside of EPS, such as the Edmonton Catholic School Board and schools outside of Edmonton. Sterling also specifies that skills and knowledge in the areas of second language, technology, and special needs education could give one an advantage in landing a job.

Even though EPS has benefited from

hiring fewer teachers and decreasing the teacher supply list, recent University of Alberta graduates from the Faculty of Education are not as pleased.

Rand Jurf, a 2009 U of A education graduate, applied to EPS in December 2009 with credentials in a second language, volunteering experience in a bilingual language school, and exceptional references from a principal and a mentor, yet was rejected by EPS, leaving her frustrated and confused.

"I thought I would get a job with the recommendations, awesome evaluation, and reference letters from both my mentor and facilitator," Jurf said. "It frustrated me. You would think if you had perfect evaluation and recommendations and two people calling on your behalf, it would get you

through the door, but it didn't."

When Jurf asked EPS why she was rejected, they placed blame on her, saying her GPA and evaluation were just average.

"There was an underlying reason for not being hired. I don't believe it had to do with my GPA and that I have 'average' evaluation. It was odd to me, my mentor, and my mom, who's a retired principal."

Jurf was not informed of supply list cut backs, and felt that communication should be encouraged between EPS and those applying to help give recent graduates a greater understanding of the system.

The U of A Faculty of Education refused to comment on the decline of teachers being hired by EPS.

## Campus food bank demand consistent with trends

**FOOD BANK ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

Seibert said that this has led to a close partnership between the Campus Food Bank and the financial aid information centers on campus.

"We make sure that students know about these other tools, other than just student debt, that are available to them if they're really struggling and unable to make ends meet," she said, citing bursaries and access funds as other means of support.

One of the food bank's former clients, who wished to remain anonymous, spoke highly of the Campus Food Bank's role on campus.

"The food bank provides people with the opportunity to focus on school. They helped me manage the stress of not knowing what I was going to eat for the next week," the third-year education student said.

Citing financial problems as his reason for turning to the food bank, the student said he was unaware of a stigma against food bank use, but admitted to being self-conscious when he first came to the Campus Food Bank.

Seibert is optimistic that the release of these statistics by The HungerCount and the media attention to the increase will do much to reduce the stigma attached to using food banks on campus.

Information for the Campus Food Bank can be found at <http://www.ualberta.ca/~foodbank/> or in Room 040-J in SUB.

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# UVic SU to boycott Maclean's

KAILEY WILLETTS  
The Martlet (University of Victoria)

VICTORIA (CUP) — Maclean's may be Canada's magazine, but the students' society at the University of Victoria is saying it isn't their magazine after a controversial article about race was published.

The society's board of directors passed a motion at their November 29 meeting that will ban sales of Maclean's from the students' union building if the national magazine does not apologize for the article by December 31. The motion also directed the society's chairperson James Coccola and director Jaraad Marani, who moved the motion, to send a letter to Maclean's condemning the article.

The article, entitled "Too Asian?", discusses the numbers of Asian students at some Canadian universities and what this means for Caucasian students. It has sparked a nationwide controversy.

Marani believes the article was used as a platform to perpetuate stereotypes.

"[It perpetuates stereotypes] that Asians are smarter because of culturally-enforced values that make them study harder and have less of a focus on being social and the social experience of university than white students," he explained.

Marani noted that these stereotypes are based on 150 years of anti-immigrant and anti-Asian sentiment in Canadian media.

Approximately 25 students attended the board meeting, at which the motion was debated for two and a half hours. Co-ordinators from the Students of Colour Collective and UVic Pride, as well as other students, encouraged the board to pass this motion.

However, the decision was not unanimous — five directors opposed the motion while 12 were in favour.

"I see us deciding to stop sales of Maclean's because of one article that was a very political article as a form



SUPPLIED: SOL KAUFFMAN/THE MARTLET

of censorship. The students' society is doing what they can to stop students from having access to that publication, which is censorship," said Nathan Warner, one of the directors who opposed the motion.

Warner said if an amendment to remove the clause about stopping the sales of Maclean's had passed, he would have supported the motion.

"I think a letter being sent to Maclean's condemning the article, [saying] 'our members are concerned with this and we would like you to apologize,' [would be] fine, but taking the step towards what I call censorship is not acceptable," he said.

But Marani emphasized that the motion is not about censorship.

"It's more of a consumer boycott," he explained. "Therefore we have chosen to exercise our power in not purchasing materials that have been deemed problematic and racist."

Maclean's says they are disappointed with the decision.

"We are disappointed with this decision, particularly because it was made on a university campus, a safe-spot for the discussion of ideas and issues, even if those issues are difficult, at times, to discuss," said the editors of Maclean's in an email to the Martlet.

"Furthermore, the [society's] decision is not based on a fair reading of our original article, which is actually supportive of Asian students, or the editorial that subsequently ran in response to the public discussion about the article."

On November 25, Maclean's published "Merit: The best and only way to decide who gets into university," a response to the controversy generated by the "Too Asian?" article.

"I think it was an apology. Some people seem to think it wasn't," Warner said.

But Marani doesn't see the note as enough.

"We are looking for a genuine apology. What they wrote was a response to legitimate their actions," he said. "We are looking for ownership of the impact of their article, not hiding behind a non-issue of race-based admissions based on Asian students."

The only business in the students' union building that sells the magazine sold less than 10 copies last year.

Marani hopes other universities will follow suit.

Victoria City Council recently passed a motion condemning the article as well, becoming the first municipality in the country to do so.

# Carleton club to sue students' union

ALEXANDRA POSADZKI  
CUP Ontario Bureau Chief

TORONTO (CUP) — Carleton University's pro-life club will take its students' union to court if the union doesn't reverse its decision to revoke the group's club status.

Albertos Polizogopoulos, the lawyer representing the club Carleton Lifeline confirmed on November 21 that he would take legal action against the Carleton University Students' Association (CUSA) if they do not recertify the club. Losing their certification means Carleton Lifeline will not be able to apply for funding or book student space.

CUSA made the decision to deny Carleton Lifeline recertification on the basis that the club's constitution violates their "discrimination on campus policy."

The policy states that CUSA will "respect and affirm a woman's right to choose her options in case of pregnancy."

It goes on to state that "actions such as any campaign, distribution, solicitation, lobbying, effort, display, event, etc. that seeks to limit or remove a woman's right to choose her options in the case of pregnancy will not be supported" and that "no CUSA resources, space, recognition or funding will be allocated for the purpose of promoting these actions."

In a letter dated November 11,

CUSA's Vice President Internal Affairs invited Carleton Lifeline to amend their constitution by November 18 to respect CUSA's policy in order to regain their certification.

But Ruth Lobo, president of Carleton Lifeline, said that CUSA's decision is discriminatory and a blow to free speech.

"CUSA's constitution says they will not discriminate against students for political ideologies and that's exactly what they're doing," Lobo said.

CUSA's decision comes on the heels of the recent arrests of Lobo and four other students for attempting to put up a controversial pro-life display featuring graphic images of aborted fetuses on campus.

Polizogopoulos believes that CUSA's decision stems from those arrests. Carleton Lifeline has been certified since the winter of 2007, and has applied for and received funding and recertification every year since.

Polizogopoulos said that CUSA tried to deny Carleton Lifeline club status back in 2006 for the same reason. But after public outcry from students and other organizations, the club was certified and has successfully remained a club since then.

He believes the issue is a textbook definition of differential treatment.

"CUSA has labeled itself as a pro-choice organization, and is shutting down groups that are pro-life that disagree with the position that CUSA has taken," he said. "So they are effectively

treating pro-life students and pro-life student clubs differently than they're treating pro-choice students."

The club has not changed their constitution or their position on abortion since, which raises the issue of why CUSA would choose now to decertify the club, he said.

Cara Zwibel, a spokesperson for the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, said there seems to be a growing trend towards silencing pro-life clubs on Canadian campuses.

"We're very concerned about freedom of expression on university campuses. It's an important place for people to debate and discuss controversial issues, and to silence one side of the debate does not contribute to the marketplace of ideas," Zwibel said.

Zwibel said the Canadian Civil Liberties Association supports a woman's right to choose, but she does not think that abortion is the real issue at hand.

"This is about the right to express different opinions in a university setting, and we think it's inappropriate for a student group to be prohibited from being a club because of the views that it's expressing," she said.

Alex Sirois, CUSA president, said CUSA believes they were upholding the Clubs and Societies bylaws and the anti-discrimination policy in their decision, but they are unable to comment further until the legal issues are resolved.

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4. JAY SPARROW - IN OUR TIME
5. THE MITTS - COLLECTED RECORDINGS
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## NEWS & EVENTS

### NEW SHOW ALERT!

*Campus Sports Connection*  
Wednesdays at 5pm

From basketball to volleyball, and everything in between Campus Sports Connection is your new source for U of A athletics, hosted by Nick Frost and Evan Daum, Check it out!



## New health plan Conservatives’ last chance

BY NOW, YOU’VE ALL SEEN STEPHEN DUCKETT’S infamous “cookie” video, listened to the Cookie Monster remixes, and baked your own batch of questionably delicious oatmeal raisin Duckett cookies. In the wake of Dr. Paul Park’s damning letter to the provincial Conservatives regarding the state of Alberta’s emergency care, and possibly catalyzed by Duckett’s refusal to talk to the press, Duckett was sacked last week. Replacing him is interim CEO Dr. Chris Eagle — who, it should be noted, is an actual medical doctor. Eagle and Health Minister Gene Zwozdesky rolled out a new health plan this week in the face of a magnificent filibuster campaign initiated by Wildrose Alliance MLAs. None of that matters now. What’s important is that the Progressive Conservatives have actually, seriously, committed themselves to health-care reform, and God help them if they don’t follow through.

The new plan released on Tuesday sets out firm goals for emergency wait times for a wide range of common procedures, from cardiac surgery to radiation therapy. A handy table lays out the wait times the province hopes to achieve for 9-out-of-10 patients over the next five years. Currently, wait times in Alberta are in some cases nearly three times the national average. Clearly, even by the government’s own metrics, the situation is dire. Conversely, the new plan lays out target wait times far below the national average, a noble goal indeed. And their planning document “Becoming the Best” even spells out a clear path to achieving that goal, including increased funding for health care.

That’s an improvement, but all is not well in the realm of Alberta Health Services, at least if NDP leader Brian Mason is to be believed. According to Mason, “These five-year plans are good for about a year and a half, when the next election is. Anything they promise today will be meaningless in the future.” And support for the Tories is fading fast. The Wildrose Alliance has already made inroads on the conservative vote, and their actions in defence of effective public health has no doubt bolstered their reputation with centrists as well. They won’t win the next election, but they will split the conservative vote, and that’s bad news for the PCs. The Conservatives have demonstrated that their policies are no longer in the best interests of Albertans; this bold, uncharacteristically decisive health-care plan is simply damage control.

The PCs are in a bad spot: the upstart Alliance has stolen seats from them, and the regrettably named Cookiegate scandal has upset their increasingly tenuous grasp on control of the province. There may well be a new dynasty on the way in. Given the way Albertans tend to vote — small-c conservative, if at all — knocking the PCs out of place could secure Alliance power.

But the PCs can salvage their reputation, and their hold on power, by actually making good on the promises laid out in the planning document. The Alberta electorate has proven impassive enough thus far that if the PCs actually, somehow, manage to straighten out the mess that our emergency care system is in, they could conceivably pull through another election. If they can do that — and that is a big if — they may win another term. Furthermore, if they can pull it off, they might finally deserve it.

DAN MCKECHNIE  
Photo Editor

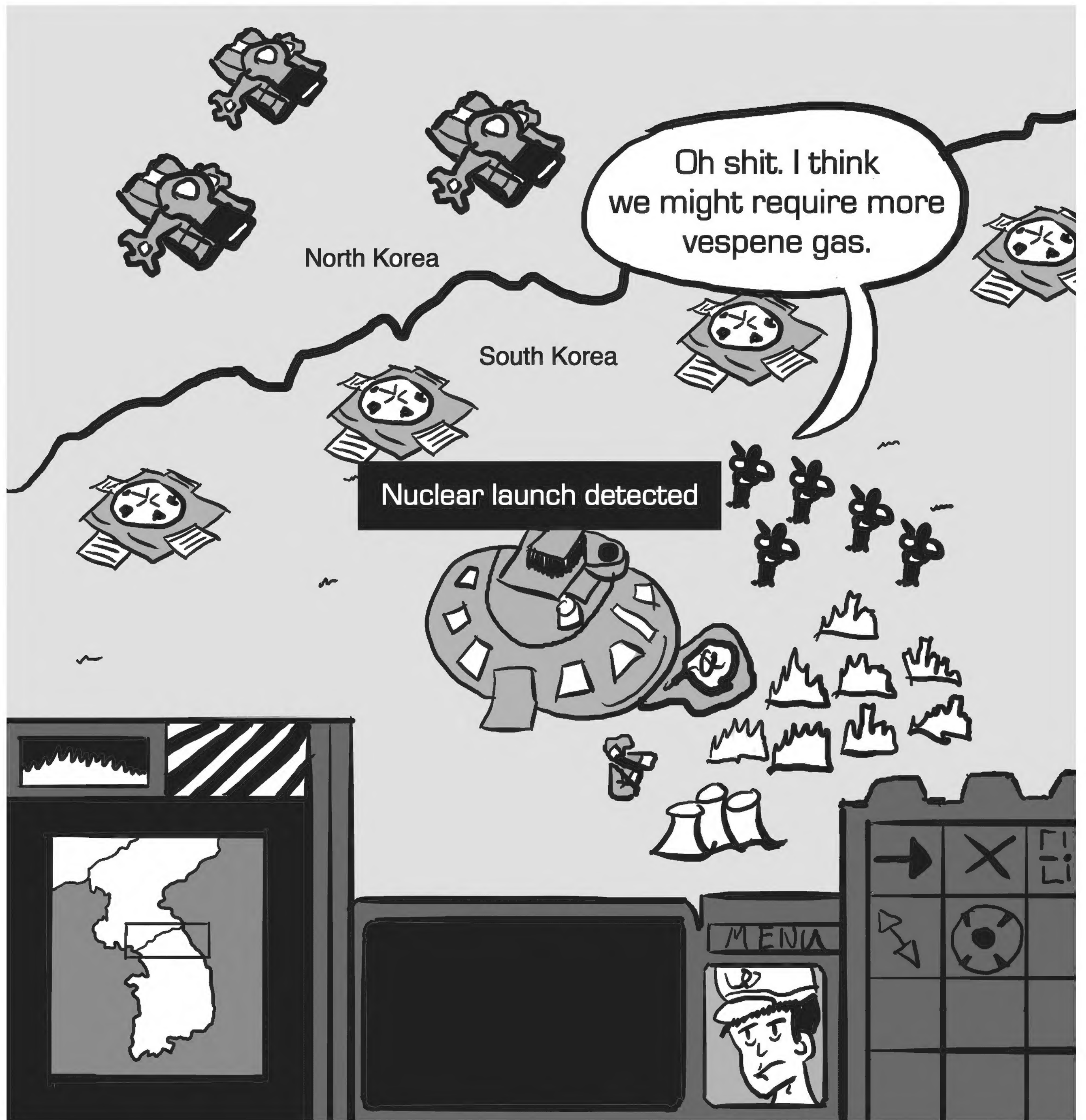
## Show me the money

Next year, Students’ Union executives will see a wage increase from approximately \$26,000 to \$33,000 per year. Obviously, this is deeply problematic.

Even with a full year’s employment, I’ll only make approximately \$18,000. While I realize that the execs work long, hard hours, sometimes deep into the night, why should they make more than those of us who earn less than minimum wage? I insist that they should be poor, starving students, just like the rest of us unfortunate bastards.

On that note, Merry Christmas, you filthy animals.

ALIX KEMP  
Impoverished Editor



## letters TO THE eds

### Sudan conflict requires campus awareness

A historical moment in the history of Africa will take place early this January when south Sudan goes to the polls to decide whether to stay united with their northern brothers, or become the newest independent country on the African continent.

In 2005, after more than 20 years of civil war, a peace agreement was struck between the two warring sides of the Sudanese civil war. As a part of this agreement, southern Sudan will go to the polls to decide whether independence is the best path towards a peaceful, dignified future for their coming generations. This referendum takes place January 9, 2011.

The latest significant political event in Sudan took place last April in the form of a presidential election. The legitimacy of this election, however, was way below international standards. We are concerned about the democratic process and its legitimacy this time around.

Stand Canada is a national youth-based anti-genocide advocacy organization and an active student group here on campus.

Stand’s main concern is the ongoing conflict in Darfur; however, the outcome of the Southern referendum will have direct impacts on the Darfur

region. Therefore, it is an extremely important focus of Stand’s advocacy work at the moment. Stand aims to create the political willpower within the government to act in response to this issue.

We urge the university body and decision makers to ensure that action against genocide and crimes against humanity becomes a cornerstone of Canadian foreign policy. In essence, we work daily to ensure that the phrase “Never Again” means something.

Stand Canada is currently in the middle of its 1-800-Genocid(e) campaign. The campaign is designed to engage university students in simple and effective ways to speak out and stand up for the people of Sudan. We want Sudan to have a fair and safe space to express their decisions, and then have those decisions respected.

Stand Canada therefore recommends the Canadian government do two things: Train domestic Sudanese observers, and send an independent international contingent of election observers to Sudan. With these measures in place, we hope that the January 2011 referendum is free and fair, and the people of Sudan have their voices and choices fairly represented.

For more information, search for ‘1-800-Genocid(e) week,’ on Facebook, and then call 1-800-436-6243 to leave your message.

ELAUNA BOUTWELL  
President, U of A Chapter  
Stand Canada

## from THE web

### Stelmach, Samarasekera overlook student needs

RE: (“U of A unveils South Campus plans,” Aaron Yeo, November 30)

I love how the U of A seems to have the money to build all kinds of things but runs deficits that require students to shell out extra money. The Stelmach government is partially to blame too. It gives the U of A money and mandates that it is spent on capital projects, not on covering its deficit. However, the U of A administration should be making a point of telling the government it needs money to cover the deficit, not for buildings. But, of course, neither Stelmach nor Samarasekera really care about students’ needs.

“JOEL”  
Via Internet

### Student swears off Aramark for life

RE: (“Students shouldn’t swallow Aramark increase silently,” Jordan Ching, November 30)

After living in Lister in first year, I have vowed that given any opportunity, I will choose not to use Aramark’s service and will try to influence others to do the same. As a university student, that isn’t much

power, but I know after I graduate and start working, any “lunch and learns” or catered meetings that I am at won’t be bought from Aramark if I can manage it.

CHARLES HEARD  
Via Internet

### Canada catches up to the times with Sun TV

RE: (“Sun TV brings slanted news north,” Ryan Bromsgrove, November 30)

Whenever people here look to social or political or so-forth trends in the States and say, “Aha, see how much better off we are than those Americans,” I counter with my belief that, at best, Canada just lags behind 5 to 10 years. This is an excellent case in point.

On the plus side, maybe we’ll end up with a parliamentary equivalent of Obama in another couple of years, ousting Harper. One can hope.

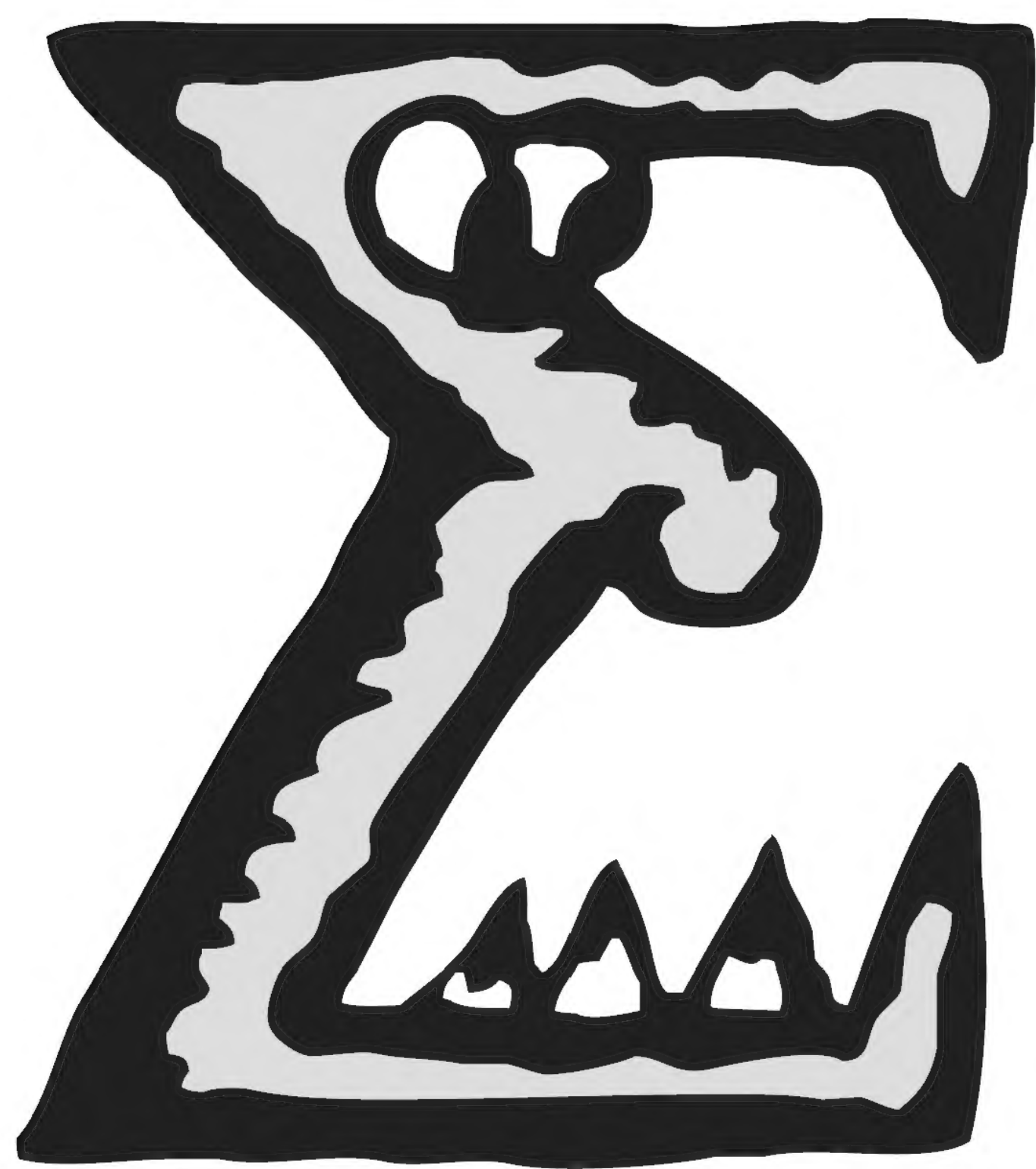
“KEITH Z-G”  
Via Internet

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca or delivered to SUB 3-04. The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature. Letters to the editor should be no longer than 400 words, and should include the author’s name, program, and year of study.



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# Wikileaks: practically terrorism



RYLAN  
BROMSGROVE

A great philosopher once said, “You can’t handle the truth.” And with Sunday’s leak of a quarter million confidential cables from the United States embassies, the sentiment has never rung more true. Wikileaks, a website already infamous for releasing information that wasn’t supposed to meet the public eye, posted the documents earlier this week. This is the largest-ever release of classified information to the public, and has exposed to the world America’s most sordid secrets. The cables date from 1966 right up until February of last year, and the content is so damaging that prior to their recent publishing, the U.S. was scrambling to warn its allies to brace for the impact.

No matter which way I look at it, I must concede that this release is the most irresponsible and down-right mean-spirited event that I have ever had the displeasure of witnessing. This strange and anarchistic idea that people have a right to know what

their elected and unelected officials are doing is simply too dangerous to allow. Virtually every politician has quite rightly condemned the release as a truly saddening and terrible thing. What Wikileaks founder and editor-in-chief Julian Assange doesn’t understand is that the content of the cables is not a reflection of corruption on behalf of politicians, but rather a reflection of corruption amongst the truth-greedy public. If I robbed a bank, and the bank catches me on security camera, I am morally obligated to scream and wave my fists at the bank for ruining my day. It’s not dishonesty that’s the problem, it’s the desire to bring it to light.

Assange should be branded a terrorist for releasing such stories as how the United States pressured Germany to not prosecute CIA agents for the kidnap and torture of Khalid El-Masri, a German citizen, after mistaking him for al-Qaeda operative Khalid al-Masri. Look at those two names and tell me that isn’t a mistake anyone could make. Hilary Clinton stated that “this disclosure is not just an attack on America — it’s an attack on the international community.” As she said, “There is nothing laudable about endangering innocent people, and there is nothing brave about sabotaging the peaceful relations between nations.”

Peaceful relations such as King

Abdullah of Saudi Arabia urging the U.S. to “cut the head of the snake,” and attack Iran’s nuclear installation. For shame, Assange.

Political rock star Sarah Palin compared Assange to an al-Qaeda operative, and called for the use of more cyber tools in stopping future releases. And how right she is. The cyber drills and chainsaws lay all too shamefully quiet. And what of the cyber police — were they asleep at their posts?

**This strange and anarchistic idea that people have a right to know what their [...] officials are doing is simply too dangerous to allow.**

For the good of the people of the world, we simply must work to ensure that our politicians, bureaucrats, and diplomats are free to engage in all the secret lies, deception, intimidation, manipulation, avarice, arrogance, incompetence, dishonesty, thievery, bribery, disregard for humanity, bullying, war-mongering, elementary school name-calling, and dick-sucking that comes with their jobs.

man. Don’t say his ‘stache is trash or that his beard is weird. Enjoy his mountain man appeal and lose yourself in the facial forest.

I really do hope you ladies have taken the time to find a Viking helmet for your mustachioed man to wear, because there is nothing quite like a moustache ride with handlebars. If you didn’t get one, you can either catch a lazy straggler who has yet to shave, or find a full-year facial murkin man and have him go to town. Or, you can just wait until next Movember. Our dirt lips shall return in a year.

BRAD CHURY

# Keeping holiday traditions alive in the worst of times



JONN  
KMECH

Every year, it feels like the Christmas tradition dies a little. Sure, stockings are still hung by the chimney with care and filled with yet another goddamn mandarin orange; misguided children are still told that an obese man in a red suit is not only allowed to offer them gifts, but they’re allowed to accept them; and people still erect massive fire hazards in their living room and adorn them with cheap plastic bullshit. But besides such standard fare, people just don’t seem to embrace the more in-depth holiday traditions anymore. I find this is particularly true with the children.

Perhaps my favourite part of Christmas comes when carolers start showing up, but this seems like a dwindling tradition. Whatever happened to the rosy-cheeked youth that used to come by my house and sing songs about Tannenbaums and Jesus? In the case that these magical little scamps do visit these days, they must naturally be tested. There’s a lot of little crooks out there, trying to steal your precious money by aping their way through “O Christmas Tree.” Plus, true carolers love a good challenge. A great tradition is clearing the snow off your driveway by flooding it with a bucket of hot water to both show them the way to your steps and make them realize that they’re going to have to earn their dollar. I can tell you for certain that watching them slip-slidin’ around out there fills my heart with holiday glee.

Any kiddies who do make it to the door will seem both happy and relieved that they don’t have permanent ligament damage, and may look

like they’re ready to sing. Don’t buy it. They still need to be grilled to see if they’re only fair-weather carolers. A tack taped neatly on the doorbell should do the trick, and any kids who are scared away by that will inevitably be taken care of by the ice or the hounds. But anyone who stays — that child, indeed, deserves your ear for “Carol of the Bells.”

Another grand Christmas tradition that children don’t seem to take part in anymore is gingerbread house making. I’ve actually worked hard to get children involved in this. It’s a particular passion of mine. But every time I’ve gotten an assembly line of kids going, with some creating the gingerbread frame for the house, others putting on the icing, and still more adding jujubes in decorative patterns, I get children complaining that they’re “tired” and that they’d like to “go home and see their family.” How am I supposed to get these gingerbread houses onto the streets of Hong Kong by Friday when I have to tolerate such insolence? Then, even worse, I get criticized by people, like agents from Interpol, for “kidnapping children by offering them gingerbread” and “running an illegal gingerbread sweatshop.” Perhaps if the sweat were Yuletide merriment, that would be true.

It seems like kids these days don’t appreciate the lengths I go to in order to make their holidays special. From the adorable way I distribute wreaths — by putting them around children’s necks and having them go up to strangers and say “please buy this so I can escape” — to the fun I share when I urge them to hang Christmas tree lights using the step ladder that’s had a few screws conveniently loosened, I just don’t understand why kids are so afraid to embrace the holiday season nowadays. But I won’t stop trying. There’s a lot of Scrooges out there, and I have to keep the holiday traditions alive for a new generation. No matter how many candy canes dipped in laxative I have to give out.

## THE MARBLE PEDESTAL

To all those who endured the hardships of Movember, I commend you. We manly men have once again made attempts at growing facial hair, the key-word being “attempts.” Ill-fated forays into facial hair expansion have befallen some of my brethren, myself included. But it’s these attempts to grow them, and especially those who tolerate our scruffiness, that are worthy of praise.

The idea of Movember started in

Australia a few years ago and has caught on like wildfire, spreading across the world. You may compare our moustaches to herpes because of their persistence, but at least our furry food filters are temporary. So ladies, there was no need to get hostile to our bristly face warmers. Yes, they’re uncomfortable, may cause rashes, and can be downright sad ‘staches, but it’s not like we are doing this for our own enjoyment. No, this is for mankind as a whole.

Our fuzzy caterpillars are a show of unity, moustache pride, and prostate cancer awareness. Congratulate your man on his hairy ability, don’t scorn and act all forlorn. Ladies, be proud of your

## THREELINESFREE

**Got something that you need to get off your mind? Either email us at [threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca), tweet @threelinesfree, or message us at [www.thegatewayonline.ca/threelinesfree](http://www.thegatewayonline.ca/threelinesfree)**

I have a sneaking suspicion that Shaye Ganam is having a hard time dealing with being a morning newscaster.

So I’m allowed to pay my library fines with credit card, but not my tuition? WTF. thank you and the feeling is mutual.

Undergraduate Business Students - get the hell out of the MBA study area on level 3. We pay big bucks for it so find another place to hang out.

chicks cant ice bros. ever. but chicks can Busch chicks. do with that what you will.

To the kid in our morning Phys 144 lecture that sneezes at least once every lecture, we really want to know who you are. we are the group at the front right of the theater. Come say hi. Please.

What. The. Flip. ?

To Mike Chafe - Don’t worry big guy...none of us actually consider you to be a real bro.

Dear engineering girl who likes Star Trek and traditional hair. Don’t be miserable. You are the best-est!

Dedus - Taht ddue was rghit. Tehy smilpy cnaot raed our ubneralkabe cdoe. Wtih tihs srecet maesgngnig, we can ktae oevr the wrlod. Aslo, fouk Bard Cruhy.

People who whisper in class while the prof is talking piss me off. Shut the fuck up and listen. You can always leave if you’re not interested.

There’s no “I” in team, but there is “meat”.

Listen, however many fucks you think I give...I assure you it is far less than that amount.

I know what our CoSSS fee should be spent on, MORE FUCKING MICROWAVES!

Why are there two Java Jives in HUB?

To the people in front of me in Classics 103: I saw you with your Pokewalkers. You can’t hide it.

Hurray, hurrah! YOU ARE RUBBISH! Use your intelligence! This is the first time I have tasted coffee. I am awake!

Please pray for my friend Logan.

taught self consciousness we cease to try

Imagine yourself a rainbow

I was at a club the other day and they played the chicken dance.....

“I’ve been noticing gravity since I was very young.” - Cameron Diaz

A smith is a star ( as is B), anyone who says otherwise is a liar!

repeatedly telling me i need a ‘thesis statement’ and ‘peer reviewed sources’ is NOT teaching me to write well...

Why do I never feel welcome anywhere on campus?

Phase 1: Collect Underpants...Phase 3: Profit.

- mayday mayday - cause this is a disaster where the fuck are the rescue workers

Guy from 6H who plays dodgeball in his hat without his jersey: You cheat, and look like a total douche

Who is this Brad Chury dude that you’re all talking about?

Regarding those rolling chair/desk combos on Cameron second: I am fully expecting a circuit track set up and drifting club before finals are up.

I’m starting a petition to keep the meal plan at it’s current level. My entire floor is for it, after all.

SUB, 11:05 am. Asian couple making out. Hard. I just want to eat my Subway! :( At least someone ‘got off’ to a good start this week...

To the couple in second floor Cameron at the computer in front of me, please stop making out, it’s distracting.

To the CSA at St. Joseph’s College, the study lounge is not your club office, so shut the fuck up, people are trying to study!

Vulpix use’d Ember

It is super effective

Bellsprout has fainted

You’ll always me my Batman <3

His roommate may have sailed the seven seas, but Jace lets you experience his skilled seamanship on his waterbed.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit any submissions, as well as refuse publication of any submission it deems racist, sexist, hateful, libellous, or overtly offensive. The Gateway cannot guarantee that your submission will be used (but we’ll try). Submissions should be 130 characters max (including spaces).

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# THE KISSING BOOTH

SEX, KINK AND ROMANCE ADVICE FROM HOLLY BOOTH

## Fiancé doesn't show respect in non-monogamous relationship

*I am a 27-year-old female in an open relationship. My fiancé and I have been dating since he was 16 years old. Since beginning our relationship, I have acted as a tutor, lover, and confidante. At first, I was happy with our open relationship; however, recently he has begun parading his conquests through our apartment, and even once kissed me with the taste of another woman still on his breath. He pays lip service to our relationship, but I am beginning to fear that he will leave me for one these new women, and for my part, I find myself less confident in my ability to attract men than I once was. As a fellow practitioner of "the lifestyle," what advice can you offer?*

Carelessly Usurped Courtesan  
Quailing Under Emotional  
Anguish Nightly

That sucks. That really, really sucks. What's clear is that your fiancé is disrespecting your feelings and causing you a great amount of emotional distress. However, there may be other factors at work here.

The best-case scenario is that your fiancé is being an ignoramus. This is likely if he hasn't had many (or any) partners outside of your relationship until now. If he's new to being in this position, he may not have the tools to deal with it effectively. I'm assuming he's also younger than you, which makes it more likely that he simply doesn't know what to do

in this situation.

But that's not to excuse his behaviour. What he's done is wrong and it gives you reasonable grounds to end the relationship — if that's what you want. However, I suspect that you'd prefer to work this out, as opposed to dumping him for the way he's treated you — otherwise you wouldn't be asking for advice. You two live together, so I'm guessing you've been through some rough times already. I think you can work through this.

Here's what you need to do: confront your fiancé. Lay it out on the table for him, let him know he's hurt you, and that he needs to clean up his act. Let him know that this is making you feel undesirable.

He might get defensive; he might try to bring up ways you've hurt him in the past. Avoid turning it into a contest of who's done the most damage. Just let him know how you're feeling and see if there are any solutions.

You have a few options depending on what you think will work best for your relationship. You could temporarily close the relationship and try to work on your issues in a safe environment without outside interference. However, that may run the risk of resentment and doesn't fix the problem.

I think the best thing you can do right now is get your fiancé to put a stop to the behaviours that are upsetting you: no more parading

his girls around your apartment, and more reassurances for you. He also needs to learn basic post-date hygiene (shower, change of clothes, change of sheets, brushing of teeth, piece of gum) and other ways to make you comfortable.

Make sure this is a two-way street. If you've hurt him in the past, use this as a chance to find out how to address and fix that, and make sure it doesn't happen again. In the worst case scenario, if you talk to him and he's unwilling to do these things — if he's unwilling to give you what you need — he's just an asshole, and you should dump him.

Hopefully, that's not the case and your fiancé is just being inconsiderate because he doesn't know better. What matters right now is that you make sure your partner knows how you're feeling and you take the steps to make it better for both of you. If he's unwilling to do that, then he's a jerk and you should be giving your ring back in no time.

*The Kissing Booth is The Gateway's weekly sex advice column. Have a question about sex, kink, relationships, or your sex life? Submit your letter to Holly by e-mailing kissing-booth@gateway.ualberta.ca.*

*Letters will be republished in The Gateway, but may be edited for length or clarity. Your real name and e-mail address will be kept confidential.*

# More like social *not*-working



ANDREW  
JEFFREY

never see again.

What we found was that while students weren't more interested in their Facebook accounts than us; many of them were simply just too busy with studying or schoolwork to talk for very long. Every student we came across were polite and glad to make small talk for awhile, but eventually needed to get back to work. Others who weren't working were comfortable talking for a while, and never rudely reached for a cell phone or computer.

Students aren't embracing technology at the expense of meeting new people. Instead these technologies offer something that real people can't — a way to keep in touch with people during our increasingly busy lives.

Columbia's experiment was evidence of how out of touch some university officials have become with their students. Universities should leave student socialization and all its internal issues to the students themselves. A university is a place of education and learning. While it's also a great location to meet interesting new people, universities don't need to worry about improving student socialization on campus, and especially not and implementing silly contests that are easily manipulated by participants. Leave that to students or students' unions.

As for the worry about technology overtaking real conversations, it's irrelevant. There will never come a time when the majority of students would rather talk to each other on Facebook than in person, no matter how popular Facebook gets. There is a certain connection that can only occur between two people in person, and besides, like New York Magazine's Chris Rovzar remarked, "Talking to new people is the easiest way to initiate sex with new people."

Columbia University's ill-fated attempt to improve social interaction between students came to an end last week. If you hadn't heard, the New York university introduced a bizarre contest called "The Social Experiment," where students attempted to gather passwords from each other in order to win a \$500 prize. Essentially, Columbia assumed the best course of action to fight decreased social interaction would be to bribe students into talking to each other more.

Despite a great deal of criticism for the contest, the top competitors were able to collect more than 100 passwords — largely thanks to text messaging and Facebook, in lieu of actual face-to-face contact or old-school "talking verbally to people." The two winners who split the \$500 prize won by mass-texting their network of friends, while the third-place competitor pooled passwords on Facebook, hoping to donate the money to charity.

This makes one wonder, did Columbia notice a real problem on their campus with students relying on technology at the expense of interacting with real people? More importantly to U of A students, does this problem exist on our campus too? There was only one way to test this, so I, along with a couple friends, conducted our own social experiment, Columbia-style: we wandered around campus, talking to random people we'd never met before and most likely will

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# Growing Christmas

WRITTEN AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY MATT HIRJI

As the morning sun rises on the eastern horizon, Peter Kepler's truck sits atop a snow-covered rolling hill that overlooks his expansive tree farm — a perfect vantage point to view just a small portion of the thousands of trees that will one day serve as the centerpiece for Christmas festivities across Alberta.

Looking on with pride at the vast array of snow-topped conifers — a mosaic of vibrant colours, smells, and sizes — Kepler breathes a sigh of satisfaction. Most of his income may come from trees used for landscaping, but his passion is for the trees used during the holidays.

"I could talk for days about trees," Kepler beams. "Trees aren't like a potato or an onion where you put them down in the spring and they are ready for harvest four months later. This is just not possible in the tree business. You have to plan for a long, long time. You have to do the pruning for 10 to 15 years. If you miss one year, you mess up the whole tree — you have to make sure that you do pruning right every year. Trees are trees and people are people. I love it."

Kepler's farm, just outside of Falun, Alberta, is one of only eight Christmas tree producers in the province. But while more than 80 per cent of trees grown in Canada originate from either Nova Scotia, Ontario, or Quebec, Kepler's operation offers insight into the unique dynamics and complexities of modern-day tree farming in Canada.

Originally from Switzerland, Kepler has been hard at work preparing the mature trees on his farm for this year's celebrations since moving here four months ago. But the cheerful, soft-spoken farmer isn't a novice in the art of cultivating trees. Back home, Kepler grew up in a family of tree farmers and is hoping to bring the knowledge accumulated over his lifetime to properly raise his trees in Canada.

Although more than 90 per cent of his 60,000 trees will eventually be sold to landscape companies, the farm-fresh Christmas trees is what really motivates the Alberta farmer. Kepler's farm grows a number of different species of trees, ranging from Colorado Blue to the ever-popular Balsam Spruce, a bushy well-rounded tree that's championed by the Canadian Tree Growers Association.

In order for trees to evolve from seedlings to living room centrepieces, Kepler must spend countless hours maintaining them. A Christmas tree takes more than 15 years to reach maturity, and during that time, Kepler must prune each of his trees at least once a year in order for them to grow properly — a year-round investment in labour that's

only rewarded once December rolls around.

"It's not just the planting — it's the pruning that takes the time," Kepler explains. "You have to prune the trees to get beautiful, cone-shaped trees for Christmas. That's what people like. They wouldn't touch anything else that isn't perfect."

As Canadians celebrate the winter holidays this season, the iconic image of the Christmas tree will stand majestically in the warm homes of countless families across the nation. The decorated Christmas tree is also celebrating its 500th anniversary as a tradition, tracing its humble origins back to Jutland, Germany. It is now practiced by both families and the dedicated farmers like Kepler who spend innumerable hours caring for their green masterpieces.

But as Canadian Christmas Tree Growers Association President Myles MacPherson explains, not many of the people who struggle with substandard tree stands or stand precariously atop ladders while hanging lights are aware of where their trees come from or how long it takes to cultivate the approximately five million trees sold to Canadians each year.

The Canadian Christmas tree industry is doing well, mostly insulated from the ups and downs of the economy. As MacPherson explains it, people always want Christmas trees. His farm near Boylston, N.S. dwarfs anything in Alberta. At 300 acres, he produces 20,000 trees a year and has 350,000 trees on his farm at once. And while Kepler has to rely mostly on landscaping for income, MacPherson manages to make a living selling only Christmas trees.

Some 4,000 Christmas tree producers dot the country, though most of those are in eastern Canada, with Nova Scotia and Quebec hosting approximately 1,000 and 800 farms, respectively. MacPherson said that although Alberta's climate would work well for tree production, the province has historically been focused more on oil, gas, and agriculture.

Alberta imports most of its trees from Washington and Idaho, with some coming in from as far away as Nova Scotia. East coast producers send most of their product to the eastern seaboard of the U.S.

While the average family can't appreciate the patience and time it takes to properly maintain a tree farm, Kepler says that this love of trees is the motivating factor that drives him to work so hard for his farm. Climbing trees for cones, pruning, and other solitary thankless tasks are only rewarded by the sight of happy families driving away with a perfectly matured tree in December.

"My favourite part is just seeing how the tree grows. A nicely shaped tree is really enjoyable. The wintertime is always kind of the dessert. After all the work that you do in the summer, in the winter, you get to see what you have produced during the year. That's kind of nice," Kepler says.

All that hard work he puts in year round is on display for about a month in homes in the region. Then those trees are sent off to the landfill, or out to be recycled, before the whole 15-year process starts again.

"Producing trees is what I grew up with," Kepler says fondly. "It's probably an emotional connection to Christmas trees. It's always something special to see the candles on a tree. It gives you a really nice feeling that you did the job right and you've made people happy. It really gives me a sense of satisfaction about what we do here."





## social intercourse

### Big John Bates & The Voodoo Dollz vs. White Cowbell Oklahoma

With *The Schomberg Fair*

Saturday, December 4 at 8:30 p.m.

The Pawn Shop (10549-82 Ave.)

Tickets \$12 at Blackbyrd

Two of Canada's wildest bands are touring across the country in the midst of a heated battle for live show supremacy. The blues-tinged rockabilly of Big John Bates is complemented by his ever-sexy burlesque accompaniment, while White Cowbell Oklahoma puts on an indescribable cowpunk show. At each date on the tour, they switch up headlining duties and do their best to outperform their tourmates, with the winner to be determined at the end of their run. Fans of legendary live performers like Social Distortion, the Reverend Horton Heat, and the Sadies will have an early start to the holidays.

### Souljah Fyah

With *DJ Mick Sleeper, Fendercase, Jeff Morris, and the Soulicitors*

Sunday, December 5 at 8 p.m.

On The Rocks (11740 Jasper Ave.)

Tickets \$10 at Blackbyrd

The lovely Sista J and her merry band will be unleashing their Caribbean rhythms upon the wintery city to celebrate the release of their latest album *I Wish*. One of Canada's premiere reggae bands, Souljah Fyah's last album earned the group nationwide praise and they're set to ride the wave of positivity to the hearts and souls of a whole new fanbase. The best part is that all attendees receive a free copy of the new album with their admission.

### James Renton

*Troubadour Tuesdays*

with *Second Hand Smoke*

Brixx Bar & Grill (10030-102 St.)

Tuesday, December 7 at 8 p.m.

\$5 at the door

I have an unresolved beef with homewrecker Mr. Renton. It would seem that a certain young lady in my life thinks his voice is ever-so-sexy, and therefore stole my lone copy of Fire Next Time's amazing *Wild Rose Sorrow* album. So while I do think that the man himself has some serious vocal chops, I highly recommend leaving your women at home, gentlemen. The bearded vocalist oozes sexuality from every pore of his drunken body. Without his band of merry men taking some of the limelight off of him onstage, I fear that Brixx may actually explode in a moist cloud of estrogen. Hell, I can't deny that I'm even mildly sexually attracted to the scruffy little guy's voice.

### It's Like Bringing A Fork to A Gunfight

[www.facebook.com/thepunksite](http://www.facebook.com/thepunksite)

Free Album Download

For those who have little interest in rockabilly, reggae, or raunchy frontmen, I have something completely different for you. Little Bobby Gorman has released a free 35-song compilation through his wonderful website ThePunkSite.com. The assortment includes eight Canadian bands, such as Montreal's The Brains and the lovely Sarah Sin's Creepshow. It also includes a pile of Paddy Sperling, the long-haired dumpster-diving non-hippie who splits his time between folk punks Audio/Rocketry and ska punks Feast or Famine. If you still aren't familiar with these great local groups, now is your chance to pick up a couple of their latest tunes for free.

Over the past year, I've enjoyed writing this column and I hope that someone out there has enjoyed reading it. Have a happy holiday season, and remember to gorge yourself on eggnog and gingerbread.

**DUSTIN BLUMHAGEN**  
Has left the building (single tear)



AARON YEO

# The High Level's morbid legacy

Trevor Anderson tosses a camera over the railing for his short film about the bridge's suicides

## filmpreview

### The High Level Bridge

Directed by Trevor Anderson

[www.dirtycityfilms.com](http://www.dirtycityfilms.com)

Available in January from Movie Studio, Sneak Peak, Videodrome, and Blackbyrd Music

JOHN KMECH

Editor-in-Chief

Walking across the High Level Bridge has always created a palpable sense of fear, a visceral response like a fist gripping your heart and squeezing.

"I think anyone who has walked across that bridge knows that feeling. That's absolutely what we were trying to replicate," says local film director Trevor Anderson.

What he was trying to replicate was the feeling of falling from the bridge, and unfortunately, people do fall — sadly, most of the time on purpose.

Many U of A students traverse the bridge on a daily basis, and if you're anything like me, peering over the edge feels like peering into oblivion.

While everything about the bridge feels particularly cold in winter — the air, the steel, the ice floes that slowly drift down the North Saskatchewan — the bridge exudes a chill year-round. An eeriness surrounds the structure in Edmonton's centre, and this may be due to its long-standing notoriety as a place where people go to end it all. It was this infamy that Anderson tried to illuminate with his five-minute documentary about the bridge's suicides.

Originally challenged by a friend to make a five-minute film about water, Anderson's project evolved into an undertaking that would see him toss his tiny Sony camera off the bridge to capture footage of the trip down, in the

safest way possible.

Hucking a camera over the railing may seem like a good way to destroy a video camera, but the camera survived and it got Anderson's film noticed. In mid-November, the Edmonton director got an honourable mention in the Best Live Action Short Film category at the prestigious American Film Institute's AFI Fest 2010, an award that Anderson didn't even realize he was eligible for.

"We went to the awards brunch really to, um, have brunch," Anderson says with a laugh. "Then they were announcing that they were going to give an honourable mention and they started to say: 'People say filmmaking is about taking risks and we're going to give this honourable mention to a film team that really took a risk. They dropped a camera off a bridge.' And at that point, Fish Griwkowsky, the director of photography, went 'Oh!' really loud. Fish and I just stared at each other, and I didn't hear anything else on stage until they said, 'Trevor, are you coming up?'"

The interesting part, of course, is that Anderson was acknowledged for the "risk" of throwing his camera, not for the risk of making a film about a devastating and emotional subject, though the filmmaker says that aspect is probably what people who don't know the bridge personally are most attracted by.

"That's what people are responding to — the concrete metaphor of dropping the camera, as a way of dealing with the subject matter. I think that it's part and parcel about why it's working. When I made the film, I really didn't make it for anyone beyond the local audience; I didn't think it would be of interest to anyone who didn't live within a seven-block radius of the mouth of the bridge. I really thought I was making it for my Edmonton friends who knew what I was talking about."

However, Anderson makes it clear that he didn't intend to make a political statement with

his film or spur city administration into taking action by putting in preventative measures.

"It's not like I want the city to do anything about that. I like the bridge very much, and I think it's a powerful feeling. In Toronto, they put up all these nets over the [Prince Edward Viaduct]. I hope that Edmonton doesn't do that. I don't think it would deter any suicides; I think it would just slow down the LRT. If anything, I just want [the film] to make a portrait of the bridge, and [suicides are] the most noticeable quality of the bridge. It's not like I'm lobbying to change anything about it — I just want to try to describe it."

But Anderson does have his own idea of how the city may be able to deter such tragedies or at least head them off.

"Emergency phones that go directly to the suicide hotline. At either end of the bridge, and possibly the middle," he says. "I think emergency hotlines to the suicide prevention centre would be a fine public use of money. Better than nets, anyways."

News of the film's accolades at the AFI awards has prompted local discussion as to whether the subject matter is too emotionally disturbing for people who have lost loved ones, or if widespread coverage of the film could spurn copycat suicides itself.

But Anderson says he made the film with the utmost respect, and he intends it to stand as both a tribute to both those who have been lost to the bridge that stands above the chasm in the heart of our city.

"I think if people want to watch it, I'd like them to, and I hope that it's comforting. I meant to make it comforting and I hope that it is [...] I think often we don't talk about difficult subjects because they need to be spoken about delicately. In the moments when we feel able to speak carefully about difficult subjects, I also think it's our duty to do so."



# Bahamas breaks away from back-up musician status

## musicpreview

### Bahamas

With Doug Paisley

Friday, December 3 at 8 p.m.

The ARTery (9535 Jasper Avenue), 18+  
Tickets \$12 in advance at Blackbyrd, Listen, and  
foundationconcerts.com

DULGUUN BAYASGALAN  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

As the winter winds roll around again, we don our coats and no doubt some of us are wishing we could be in a warmer place. But don't fret! Afie Jurvanen, a.k.a. Bahamas, will sail you away to his moniker's namesake with breezy acoustic love songs and warm laid-back vocals.

Jurvanen released his debut solo record *Pink Strat* in 2009 to critical acclaim, which earned him a Juno nomination and placed him on the Polaris Prize radar. Since then, the Barrie, Ont. native has been touring virtually non-stop for the past 18 months with artists such as Wilco and Amy Millan.

That's not to say that Jurvanen wasn't in the music scene prior to Bahamas. In fact, he performed lead guitarist and pianist duties for the likes of Feist for two years, a period during which he had to put his own artistic expression on hold.

"When I was playing in those bands, I couldn't play my own music simply because I didn't have enough time," Jurvanen explains.

Now that the former sideman has broken away into a blooming solo career of his own, his individual creations are his main focus. "I'm really proud to say I was a part of those bands, but ultimately now, I feel like playing my own music is very much a full-time job," he says. "Although I really miss those guys [...] I have aspirations to make a bunch of records on my

own and hopefully tour some more."

"That being said, I really don't think [collaboration is] unlikely just because the music community in Toronto is really small and everybody knows each other," Jurvanen adds. "There really is the sense that if someone is putting something together and if they ask me to be a part, I would definitely try."

From all this, one thing is blatantly clear: Bahamas is an independent musician with a lot in store for him. He'll be wrapping up his first headlining Canadian tour in December before making final preparations for the launch of his yet-to-be-titled sophomore record, which is forecasted to be quite different from the mellow and easygoing *Pink Strat*.

"There's definitely a lot more electric guitar [...] I didn't do all that much guitar stuff on my first record and I sort of rediscovered that in the last year and a half of touring," says the 29-year-old singer-songwriter of his upcoming album. "My band is just guitar and drums, so there's a lot of room for guitar," he continues. "That's really been inspiring and refreshing to find that instrument at the end and to find my voice within that instrument. I think that's definitely reflected on the record."

With the album due to drop early next year, Jurvanen expects to be busy with an American tour in its promotion. But, of course, not without a Christmas break first.

"We've been on tour pretty steady for the last while, and I think a little bit of space is a good thing, you know," he says. "Not just in music, but just in life — to take a bit of a breath and sort of refresh yourself and get a little perspective on what it is you're doing. I think I'm going to take a part of the new year and do that."

When asked if he's ever been to the Bahamas, he admits, "No, I haven't. I'd love to go!" He warmly adds, "Maybe this winter is a good opportunity."

Luckily for us, Jurvanen can save us the trip and bring it here to warm our winters.



## The Gateway is hiring a Line Editor!

The Gateway is accepting applications for the Arts & Entertainment Editor position for the Winter 2011 term.

The term will begin January 1, 2011, and run until April 30, 2011. In a full-time capacity, the salary for the position will be \$1553.37 per month. Interested candidates should be available for several hours of training over the Christmas

break, to be worked out between the successful applicant and the Editor-in-Chief. Qualified applicants should submit a cover letter, resumé, and portfolio to Gateway Business Manager Ashleigh Brown (492-6669, biz@gateway.ualberta.ca) by 5 p.m. on Thursday, December 9. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

A full job description of the position is available at [www.thegatewayonline.ca/gsj.s](http://www.thegatewayonline.ca/gsj.s).



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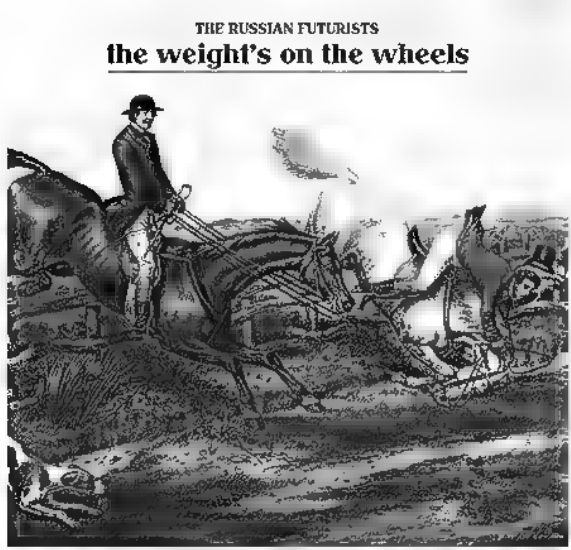
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albumreview

**The Russian Futurists**  
*The Weight's on the Wheels*  
Upper Class Recordings

GRANT CRAWFORD  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Ideas! Good ones! Let's have fun all the time! No consequences! Cotton candy! Let's trade the city for the farm! The Russian Futurists' *The Weight's on the Wheels* essentially amounts to a deluge of enthusiasm coated in sugary synth pop. It's a combination that has produced some winners — after all, some like their pop extra sweet. Fun is not having to worry about the consequences.

With a jump in production values comes the danger of making the jump from sweet to saccharine, and there are times here when things gets a little strange. For example, the duet "One Night, One Kiss," which is a song about finding romantic love in a bar, is a cute track, but that enthusiasm feels misplaced here. I mean, the whole "let's trade the city in for the farm" thing was tried by

the Russians once already, and the consequences weren't so good.

*The Weight's on The Wheels* doesn't really falter at the level of the songs, though. Taken individually, each track stands alone quite nicely, and pretty much any song on this album would make pretty good fodder for a mix CD.

Variety is actually the biggest problem here — the first and last tracks have the most memorable hooks, the third one is a duet, and the other seven have a couple notable moments. But by and large, they all sound pretty much the same. The consequence is that even though the album clocks in at under 40 minutes, it can still feel like an exhausting listen. It's an album best consumed in single song doses.



albumreview

**The Hyena Dog Robbery**  
*The Hyena Dog Robbery*  
Independent

ANDREW JEFFREY  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

In a way, the self-titled debut album from The Hyena Dog Robbery is refreshing in its simplicity. Free of pretensions, the band plays to the point, crafting sleazy, dirty music that seems to be lacking in modern rock today. The Hyena Dog Robbery achieved exactly what they set out to accomplish with their debut album. Their goal was to form a "primitive" rock and roll band, and their music

absolutely fits that description.

However, the problem that comes with being a "primitive" rock and roll band is that this style will only take a group so far in terms of creativity, and on this album, it doesn't take the group nearly far enough. While at times the band's style is enough to make some songs enjoyable, much of the album is derivative and boring, with many

songs dragging on too long while the band repeats itself. The songs start blending together, making for an experience you'll find hard to remember as variation becomes almost nonexistent either musically and lyrically.

The band itself has some chemistry between fairly talented musicians, and Daryl Purdy is undoubtedly the highlight as a confident frontman with the voice of a poor man's Iggy Pop. However, a decent band with half an album's worth of catchy but mediocre material isn't enough to make listening to a record worth it. The potential is there for something better, but until that "something better" is released, The Hyena Dog Robbery will remain a forgettable group with a nifty name and nothing more.



albumreview

**KT Tunstall**  
*Tiger Suit*  
Virgin Records

CHRIS GEE  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

When a musician receives huge air-play on their first album, they generally spend the rest of their careers trying to reproduce that level of fame before they fizzle out, never to be heard from again. On her third album, KT Tunstall has gone beyond recreating "Suddenly I See" or "Black Horse & the Cherry Tree," and the album benefits greatly from this.

In fact, Tunstall's third album *Tiger Suit* is her most lush and satisfying piece of work. She shows

what could arguably be called her true stripes. Now there are electrified and hypnotic beats added to her Sheryl Crow-like melodies — quite a break from the sound on either *Eye to the Telescope* or *Drastic Fantastic*. On "Uummanaq Song," she mixes her signature rootsy rasp with a thundering tribal cry, acknowledging her recent tour to Uummanaq, Greenland. Tunstall realizes her own personal fork-in-the-road on "(Still a) Weirdo"

with a lightly strummed riff and oddly processed beat-boxing. There is restlessness on *Tiger Suit*, and Tunstall is unpredictable, at times glaring her teeth like a "Glamour Puss" or trudging through the contemplative bush such as on "Lost." However, the theme is consistent; Tunstall is exploring new territory and trying different things with her already-proven pop style. She's a lot more fun when she adds these carefree and sassier moods to her songs.

Tunstall has shown growth as a musician by writing more personally inspired music despite previously earning success. This is what makes her stand out from the plethora of radio-ready female singer-songwriters. Although she does this by wearing a metaphorical *Tiger Suit*, Tunstall proves it is possible to change your stripes.



albumreview

**Good Charlotte**  
*Cardiology*  
Capitol

KRISTINE NIELSEN  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

If you're like me, a part of you died inside when you found out that Good Charlotte had released another album. I hoped that they'd realized there was no way to become any more pretentious, so they had disbanded and Joel Madden had gone back to happily making babies with Nicole Richie. Evidently not — they have returned to enrich the music world with sordid tales of drunken nights of oblivion and sex, a far cry

from bitching about the lifestyles of rich and famous people.

With all that, Joel Madden has not forgotten that he's now a father and wants to incessantly remind us of this fact by including a few sappy ballads for his children, one of them called "Harlow's Song (Can't Dream Without You)." Subtlety is not this guy's forte, and neither is clever lyricism. It's understandable that he's bursting with fatherly pride, but when your kids

grow up, they may not appreciate their eyes being compared to rainbows or their tears to "morning dew." Sadly, this is not the last of the clichés. After reminiscing about the charms of 1979 — a year in which two of the band members were not yet born — and loves lost to neverland, Good Charlotte inexplicably finds God. Profound? Not so much. They are just as power-pop and plastic as is expected. No one ever gave them points for originality.

The reason Good Charlotte sticks to what they know is because their original thoughts make no sense. In the title track, we are sagely informed that "a heart is a vessel that can carry you far away [...] it could swallow an ocean in the palm of your hand." What does that even mean? Joel Madden, maybe you should just stick to producing hipster babies and leave cardiology to the professionals.

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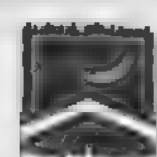
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## Blind Guardian metalheads hit the books

When he's not reading, Frederik Ehmke composes tributes to J.R.R. Tolkien

### musicpreview

#### Blind Guardian

With *Holy Grail* and *Seven Kingdoms*  
Saturday, December 4 at 8 p.m.  
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GABBY RICHES  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Whether you're shackled in front of your computer playing *World of Warcraft* or neglecting your studies for fantasy fiction, such otherworldly adventures demand an fitting soundtrack. Writing these odes has been the prerogative of German symphonic power metal quartet Blind Guardian. Referred to by their fans as bards, they've been creating some of the most legendary metal masterpieces for more than two decades and will soon be descending upon Edmonton, bedecked in winter armour.

But when the band needs some respite from the frigid winter temperatures, it's not uncommon for them to recline with a good read. Blind Guardian's lyrical themes are inspired by a wide variety of fantasy and horror authors such as J.R.R. Tolkien and Stephen King. Frederik Ehmke, the drummer of the band, is an avid King reader.

"Right now, I'm reading *The Dark Tower*," Ehmke shares. "I'm at a very exciting part of the book; I don't know

how it's going to end. There are actually plenty of Blind Guardian songs that have referenced this story, such as 'Somewhere Far Beyond.'"

When they don't have their noses stuck in books, the band stays plenty busy with their chaotic tour schedules, album releases, and many exciting side projects. They orchestrated a piece for the soundtrack of the 2008 fantasy film, *In the Name of the King: a Dungeon Siege Tale*, as well as wrote the theme song for a popular RPG video game *Sacred 2: Fallen Angel*. In addition, fans can look forward to their second *Lord of the Rings*-themed project, which has been eight years in the making.

"We are currently finishing up our orchestral project where the instrumental pieces are all about *Lord of the Rings*. The writing will be finished by next year; this might be the next big thing for Blind Guardian," Ehmke comments.

Of course, whether they're composing pieces for side projects or for their next album, the band makes every opportunity to perform for fans. In 2003, Blind Guardian decided to offer their dedicated fans a unique event by putting on the Blind Guardian Open Air Festival, which attracted more than 6,000 headbangers.

Due to the success of their headlining endeavour, the band is considering hosting another special event and producing a live concert DVD.

"We are thinking of having a second [festival] to celebrate our 25th anniversary, having a special show done using

a real orchestra. We really wanted to make a good DVD, so that's where the idea came from," he says. "When you try to make a DVD at large metal festivals like Wacken Open Air, they already have cameras doing stuff. We wanted to make our DVD in a way that suited us."

In addition to maintaining control over their image, Blind Guardian controls their sound by drawing on a number of seemingly unlikely influences — namely, classical music. Ehmke says he would seize the opportunity to collaborate with some of his favourite contemporary composers, if the opportunity were to arise.

"I would jam with John Williams, who did the *Star Wars* soundtrack," Ehmke says. "He has a really unique and bombastic style of orchestrating and writing for an orchestra which is really inspiring to me. I would also want to work together with Basil Poledouris, a Greek composer who wrote the soundtrack to *Conan the Barbarian*."

The band's palate also reflects their style and personality. The first-ever metal cookbook called *Hellbent for Cooking* integrates recipes from popular metal bands. Unfortunately, Blind Guardian was not included in the book, but Ehmke offered some mouth-watering recommendations, nonetheless.

"We would submit some Asian-themed recipes. Like Thai-styled noodles or something because all of us enjoy this kind of food. It's cooked in a fast way, you can experiment with it, and it tastes real good."

## THE FINER THINGS

It's one of those days — you slept through your alarm clock so you didn't get your morning Tim Hortons fix. You slipped into class late, only to get a paper back containing your worst mark of the semester. It's a day where you should've just stayed home. But there's one thing that can help you forget it: pop in a disc of *Glee*.

*Glee* does a great job at what it was designed to do, which is immersing viewers in almost an hour of song, dance, and comedy. It's a show that

I don't have to think too much about when I watch it.

The actors and plotlines of *Glee* may be criticized for being unrealistic, but they fit what the show is supposed to be: everything is over-the-top and exaggerated. This is a good thing. *Glee* isn't realism — it's escapism.

The characters may not be realistic representations of today's teenagers, but just like sitcom characters, they are over-dramatized to entertain. Similarly, all viewers know that if someone were really to be "slurped" in the hallway of a real high school, teachers would intervene. But *Glee* isn't pretending to be accurate to real life. It's fictional, so viewers can turn to *Glee* when they want a break from

the real world.

The storylines are easy to follow, the songs are catchy, and the characters are comedic, so viewers can just get lost in the show. This is what makes *Glee* so great. It may not be a cultural milestone, but it is enjoyable and entertaining, which is what television is all about.

Instead of overanalyzing *Glee*, just sit back and enjoy. And maybe sing along a little bit.

ALEXANDRIA ELDRIDGE

*The Finer Things* is a semi-regular feature in which Gateway pop culture pundits point to a particularly relevant or pretentious example of art, celebrating it for all of its subjective merit.



## Bears seek quick revenge against Cougars



AARON YEO

### **basketball**preview

#### **Bears vs. Regina Cougars**

December 3-4, both at 8 p.m.  
Main Gym

MATT HIRJI  
Sports Editor

Seeking to avenge the ghosts that haunted their playoff dreams last season, the Court Bears will return to the Main Gym this weekend for a hardwood battle against the Regina Cougars.

Fresh off a heartbreaking overtime loss last Saturday to the Victoria Vikes, the Bears are now setting their sights on a Cougars squad that beat them twice last season to steal the final Canada West playoff spot. As Bears head coach Greg Francis asserts, the upcoming weekend series against Regina is not only important for his team to get the first half of the season back on track, but also to redeem themselves after falling to the Cougars twice last year.

"This is a big weekend for us. Regina is a crafty veteran team — much like last year. They will be a really tough challenge for us. I think our guys are really hungry and really focused on trying to finish off this first half of the season strong.

If we can get into a situation where we can have a record of 7-5 or 8-4, we will be in a great situation for the second half."

The Cougars, with a 6-4 record, are currently tied with Alberta in the Canada West division. But while the two prairie teams have mirror-image records, their style of play contrasts starkly. While the Bears, under the guidance of an offensively minded head coach, prefer a blisteringly quick pace, the Cougars are slow and methodical in their play — something that can frustrate opponents out of their comfort zone.

"They are an awkward team to play against because they try to make you play slow," Francis explained. "They are a very tactical team, so they want to make it more like a chess match, whereas we want to make it like a Mario Kart race. We want to make it into a game where we are going up and down and seeing their talent against our talent."

In an effort to maintain a speed of play conducive to their success, the Bears will have to win the races. Last weekend, in a split against the Victoria Vikes, the Bears were able to maintain a high level of intensity for the majority of the series. However, in the final quarter of the series, the Vikes raised their game while the Bears struggled to keep up.

"They are an awkward team to play against [...] They are a very tactical team, so they want to make it more like a chess match, whereas we want to make it into a Mario Kart race."

**GREG FRANCIS**  
HEAD COACH, BEARS BASKETBALL

up around Canada West basketball so in games like this weekend, he really knows how important they are. I really go to him to get the guys focused on the task at hand," Francis said.

"Regina may not seem like the best team when you see them warming up, but you know that if you let them play their game, they are very good. I am really going to lean on Jordan this week as we prepare for Regina to get the team's intensity up.

"We need two wins. We need the results. We need to make a spot and show where we are in the league. For me it's one of the toughest games of the year because we need to get results against a team that's very tough."

The Bears will look to Jordan Baker to lead by example and bring his trademark intensity to the Main Gym. The second-year guard and son of former Pandas basketball head coach Trix Baker dove for 11 loose balls last weekend, but Francis said that he will have to put even more effort in this weekend to rally the Bears to victory in a pair of games that are vitally important for the Bears to win if they hope to keep their playoff hopes alive. "Jordan knows the rivalries because he grew

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3**  
Bears vs. Regina Cougars  
Main Gym, 8 p.m.



VS.



**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4**  
Bears vs. Regina Cougars  
Main Gym, 8 p.m.



VS.



**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3**  
Pandas vs. Regina Cougars  
Main Gym, 6 p.m.



VS.



**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4**  
Pandas vs. Regina Cougars  
Main Gym, 6 p.m.

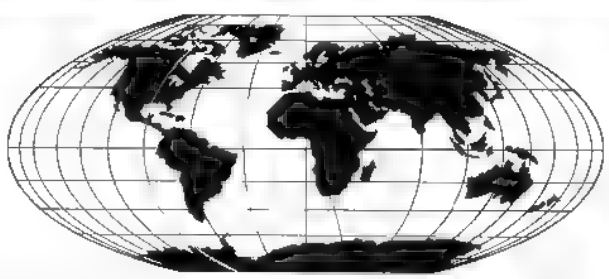


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AARON YEO

# Pandas look to pad their resume

## basketball preview

### Pandas vs. Regina Cougars

December 3-4, both at 6 p.m.  
Main Gym

MATT HIRJI  
Sports Editor

Riding an unprecedented six-game winning streak, the Court Pandas will host the Regina Cougars this weekend in a two-game tip-off for top spot in the Canada West.

But divisional bragging rights are not the only thing up for grabs in the matches between the two 9-1 squads. Because the Pandas and Cougars only face each other in one weekend series a year, the two will be clawing at each other for valuable points as they both work towards a coveted place at the national championships later in the season.

"It's a really big weekend and I know that Regina would say the same. We only get one crack at them each year and it's now," Pandas head coach Scott Edwards said. "We won't have a chance in February to make up for any losses against them."

While the match-up against Regina provides the Green and Gold with a fleeting opportunity to entrench themselves atop the Canada West division prior to an extended mid-season

break, Edwards said that claiming two wins over the aggressive Cougars squad won't be an easy task.

In contrast to a towering Victoria team that the Pandas successfully took down last weekend, if the Pandas hope to continue their winning ways this weekend, they'll have to negotiate a dominant Cougars backcourt headed up by veteran guard Joanna Zalesiak.

**"It's a really big weekend and I know that Regina would say the same. We only get one crack at them each year and it's now."**

**SCOTT EDWARDS**  
HEAD COACH, PANDAS BASKETBALL

"Zalesiak is an excellent player, she is an excellent teammate, she is a good kid, and she works very, very hard. She finds ways to do things that isn't normal in the women's game. "She is very athletic and she uses her athleticism very well. The key for us is to contain her penetration because she creates a lot of opportunities for her teammates to get good shots," Edwards acknowledged.

The task of containing Zalesiak will fall squarely on the shoulders of fourth-year guard Nicole Clarke — an objective that Edwards has the utmost confidence that the veteran

guard can pull off. Clarke was named the Canada West Player of the Week after her determined effort last weekend against the Victoria Vikes and has quickly established herself as a leader on the team while battling through a persistent foot injury.

"Nicole keeps everybody on our team accountable," Edwards said. "She is the loud voice in the room that keeps everyone on board when we start to waver. On the court, she is just a tough kid that seems to come up with big plays. I really felt on Saturday night, she just refused to let us lose."

The Pandas offence is rated as the most potent in the country heading into the weekend, but under the leadership of Clarke, the Pandas have been able to shore up their defensive presence on the court as of late. In their weekend tip-off with the Vikes, the team found a defensive veracity when they needed it most to come away with a pair of wins.

Heading into this weekend, however, Edwards explains that his team will have to play even better on both ends of the court in order to be successful against their Canada West rivals.

"That's the exciting thing about playing in this conference and why kids choose to play on a team like ours is to play in big games like this. Week in and week out, we don't ask for any easy ones — we ask for the toughest games that we can get. Here is another opportunity for our kids. It will be a couple of wars, that's for sure."



AARON YEO



# Melody Howard hopes to finish career on a high note

## hockeyprofile

**Melody Howard**  
Pandas Hockey

JUSTIN BELL  
Managing Editor

Melody Howard stands at centre ice, staring down the Manitoba Bisons' goalie across a blank sheet of ice. She's set up at centre, ready to take a penalty shot after a Bison player tossed her stick at Howard out of desperation on a breakaway.

With only 2.7 seconds left on the clock, a goal would put the game away for the Pandas and keep them atop the Canada West division. If she misses, her team will go to overtime shorthanded, with teammate Monika Moskalski sitting in the penalty box.

"I think I had too many things running through my head at that time. It was a really big game for us because first place was on the line," Howard says a few days later. "Also, the ref was taking a very long time so I had too much time to think about where I was going to shoot."

Howard would get stuffed on the penalty shot and the Pandas lost in overtime, one of two losses in a sweep by the Bisons last weekend. It was an unfortunate turn of events for one of the Pandas' most valuable players this season.

"I was disappointed in myself. I felt like I let the team down. It's very hard to face the team after that, even though they're very supportive."

But despite the missed shot, she's been a valuable addition to a Pandas team that's routinely searching for national glory. Her scoring touch has been a boon for

the Puck Pandas. Howard has managed to pot 15 points so far this season, tied for 14th in the CIS. Her strong offensive skills were one reason head coach Howie Draper brought her to the team from Grant MacEwan University two years ago.

"We knew that she would be strong.

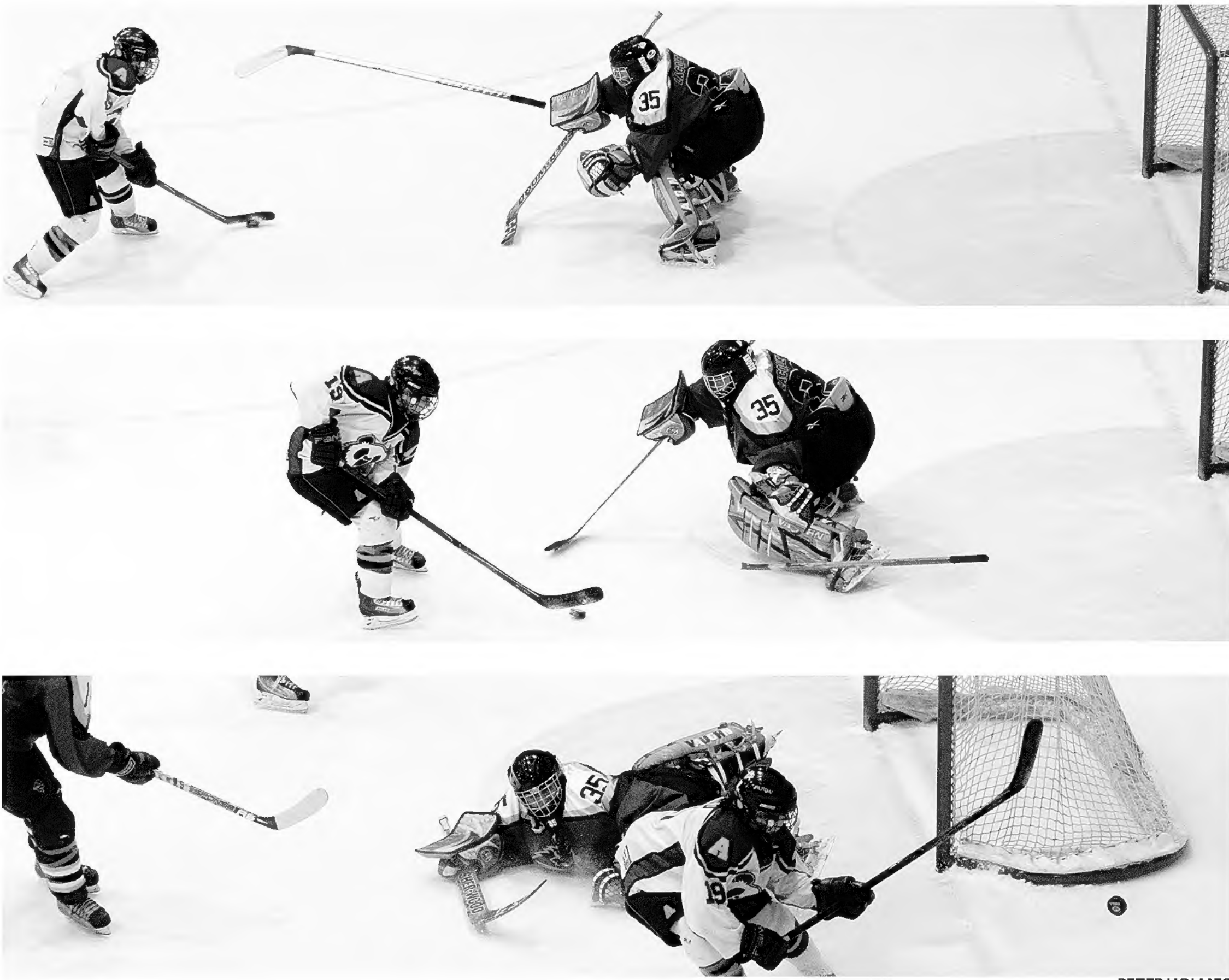
**"I was disappointed in myself. I felt like I let the team down. It's very hard to face the team after that, even though they're very supportive."**

**MELODY HOWARD**  
FORWARD, PANDAS HOCKEY

Coming out of the [Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference], she was one of the top players in that league," Draper says. "She is a dynamic forward that has the ability to break a game open for you and get big goals when they're most needed."

But the transition into the CIS hasn't come easy for the Grand Prairie native. After sitting out for much of last year with a torn ACL and struggling to catch up, this season Howard has been forced to adapt to a faster game dominated by players that are much larger than her — at 5'2, she's one of the shorter members on the team. And it's taken some time to adjust to the increased practice and workout schedule.

"By the time I came, it was expected we knew all these things," Howard says. "Also, girls had played 12 games and



PETER HOLMES

**FLYING FOLLY** Melody Howard streaks to the net, only to be distracted by a flying stick thrown by a Bisons defender..

were practicing every day. I was limited to riding the bike. Once I came back, I had to learn how to play with my knee brace."

Compared to her struggles last season, Howard's impressive scoring touch this year is one of the reasons she is playing on the Pandas' top line. That knack for netting goals will be needed if the Green and Gold are to return to the national

tournament this season.

"I think most of the pressure is a team pressure to get back to nationals. We haven't had the same success we had last year. We only lost one game all year last year. I think we have a very good team to make it to nationals and go all the way."

But it will all soon come to an end for the scrappy forward. In her fifth year of

eligibility, the Education major has run out of time with the CIS and is already looking forward to her last practicum next semester and an end to organized hockey — a reality that many female Canadian hockey players face as their university careers wind down.

"I think this is it," Howard says, on the brink of putting an end to an impressive five-year varsity career.

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# The Grinch's heart grew three sizes that day

SPORTS  
STAFFGroup  
Commentary

In honour of our final issue before Christmas, here are *The Gateway's* sports staff picks for comeback stories and feel-good moments that made us all warm and fuzzy inside.

**Max Lutz****Joannie Rochette's Olympic Medal**

The Vancouver 2010 Olympics had no shortage of astonishing headlines, but perhaps the greatest one involved a young woman whose courage and determination personified what the ancient Greeks had sought when creating the first Olympic games.

Canadian-born Joannie Rochette couldn't foresee the hardships she would face before travelling to Vancouver to compete in Ladies Figure Skating. The 24-year-old skater had trained hard for her opportunity and was excited to finally take the world's greatest stage. That's when tragedy occurred. Just two days prior to skating, Rochette received some devastating news — her mother, who had just arrived in Vancouver to watch her daughter compete, had died of a heart attack.

The tragic news came as a shock to Rochette, and it would have been completely understandable if she had decided to withdraw herself from the

competition. Incredibly, the young skater from Montreal temporarily withheld her immeasurable grief and remained in the event.

With the support of onlookers from across the globe, Rochette skated, and it was a sight to behold. Not only did she manage to compose herself long enough to perform in front of millions, Rochette skated well enough to claim the bronze medal.

It was only on the podium that the young figure skater revealed her emotions. And as she accepted her medal, thousands of fans and even a couple choked-up sportscasters mirrored her tears.

The final stamp on what is one of the greatest Olympic stories of all-time, Rochette received the honour of being the nation's flagbearer for the closing ceremonies, a recognition she humbly accepted while remaining adamant that there were several other athletes who deserved the honour.

**Bren Cargill****The 1983 Orange Bowl**

The discrepancies between the haves and the have-nots are particularly evident in college football, and during the 1980s, the Miami Hurricanes epitomized what it means to be a small fish in a big pond.

Playing in the powerful ACC division, the Hurricanes wallowed in their own misery for years. Nobody went to see their games, the team had been awful for what seemed like forever, and there appeared to be no hope for the future.

Then Howard Schnellenberger took over as head coach, and in just four

short years, the football genius guided the Orange and Green to their first shot at the National Championship in more than 20 years.

With championship glory on the line, the 'Canes entered the 1983 Orange Bowl as the underdogs, taking on the undefeated Nebraska Cornhuskers, a team who many felt at the time was the greatest college football team in the history of the game. No one gave the upstart Miami team much of a chance to beat this juggernaut.

However, right from the outset, the Hurricanes came on as the aggressors. Behind the passing of their unknown quarterback, Miami raced out to an early 17-0 lead. But after a gruelling three quarters of play, the Hurricanes were only ahead 31-30 with 48 seconds remaining in the game and were losing grip on their chances at shocking the college football world.

With Nebraska looking for a last-second two-point conversion to seal their undefeated season, the Hurricanes responded with one of the most shocking plays of the game. Miami safety Ken Calhoun managed to tip away a Nebraska pass to sew up the greatest upset in college football history.

**Justin Bell****1942 Leafs Stanley Cup comeback**

Usually feel-good stories involve some sort of amazing play or personal story to wrap yourself around. It's all very sappy, and to that I say: shove it.

The greatest heart-warming story of sports history has to be that of the

1942 Toronto Maple Leafs, the first team in major league sports to win a seven-game playoff series after falling behind 3-0.

That year, the Leafs entered playoffs as the tops in the league, getting a bye through the first round, taking down the New York Rangers 4-2 in the semifinals, and facing off against the Detroit Red Wings for the Stanley Cup that year.

But the Leafs ran into a snag when they faced down the powerful Red Wings in the finals. The Blue and White faltered early, allowing the Wings to claim the first three games. Detroit was poised to hoist the Cup in game four, but Toronto's captain Syl Apps and the rest of the '42 Leafs would have none of it.

Managing to storm back in four straight games, the Leafs pulled off a stunning sweep that wouldn't be repeated until 1975 by the New York Islanders in their third season as a franchise. Even then, the '42 Leafs are the only team to come back from a 3-0 deficit in the Stanley Cup Finals.

And to top it off, team manager Conn Smythe — yes, that Conn Smythe — was in Europe kicking Nazi ass during the Leafs' victory. If that doesn't warm your heart, I don't know what will.

**Andrew Jeffery****Ray Bourque hoisting the Stanley Cup**

The dream of any young hockey player aspiring for NHL glory isn't to break every record in the book or to lead the league in scoring every year. What every player really dreams

about is that moment when they can raise the Stanley Cup after leading their team to championship immortality. So it's always sad to see a star player retire without experiencing that moment. It blemishes otherwise stellar careers, is seen as a major strike against a player's Hall of Fame eligibility, and worst of all, the player has to leave the game behind and retire without achieving that dream.

That is what makes Ray Bourque's career such an amazing tale. Bourque spent 21 years with the Boston Bruins as one of the best defencemen in the league. He won multiple awards, was appointed to various all-star teams, and was the Bruins' captain for more than a decade. He was the team's heart and soul.

Besides all that, Bourque was also a class act. He quietly completed salary negotiations as quickly as possible and stayed loyal to the Bruins through thick and thin. Though in the twilight of his career he still hadn't hoisted the Cup, he refused to request a trade.

But the Bruins' management respected Bourque enough to trade their franchise player of the past two decades to the championship-contending Colorado Avalanche so Bourque could finally get a chance at winning Lord Stanley's Trophy.

To this day, the image of a teary-eyed Ray Bourque accepting Stanley's Cup and emphatically raising it in victory remains one of the most inspiring visuals in NHL history. It's the image of a player who personified hard work and excellence for 22 years and finally realizing his lifelong dream before skating off into the sunset a champion.



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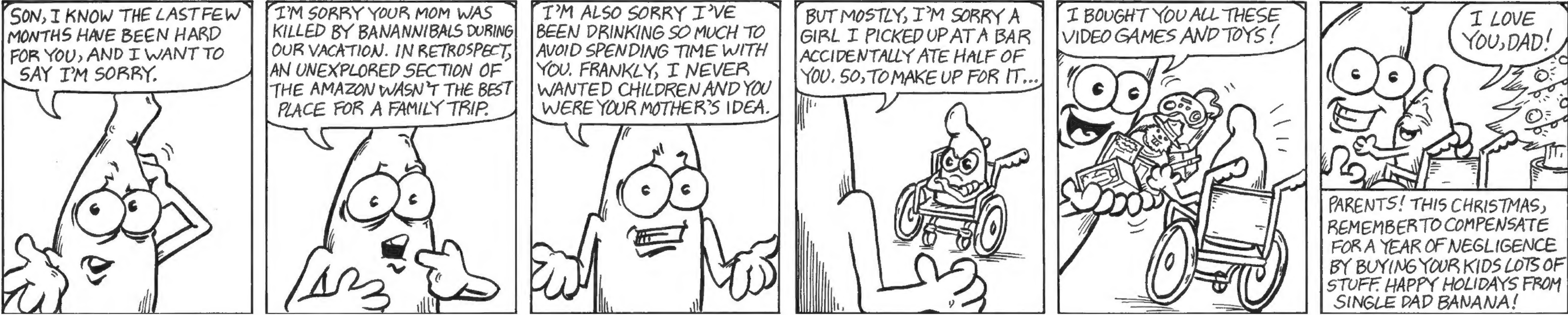
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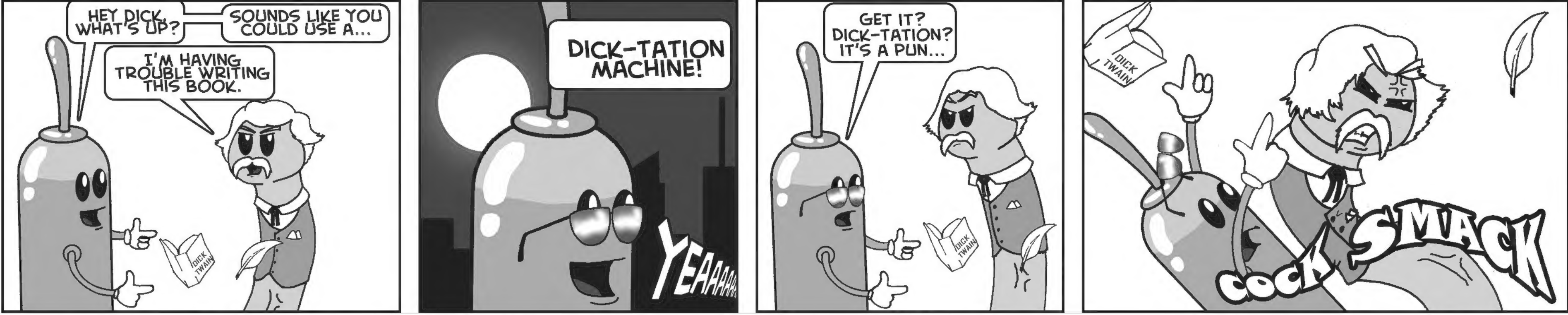
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Tutor urgently needed. Math/pharmacy calculations. Contact Nicole [cwelter@telus.net](mailto:cwelter@telus.net)

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Volunteers needed to teach ESL to adult newcomers. Downtown, classroom teaching, 2-3 hr/week. Teaching materials provided. Gain teaching experience and meet people from around the world. Contact Anne-Marie at [lexprogram@cci-lex.ca](mailto:lexprogram@cci-lex.ca).

19 THINGS YOU DO NOT WANT TO FUCK WITH, BESIDES THE WU-TANG CLAN

1. The past
2. The Jesus
3. Scrotums
4. Ice Cube (circa 1991)
5. Not Ice Cube (circa 2000s)
6. Cats addicted to morphine
7. Angry typographers
8. Regular typographers

9. Your cousins (Gross)
10. Bruce Willis
11. Feminists
12. Animals with guns
13. Feminists with guns
13. Robotic cops, like some kind of "Robocop"
14. Hungry fatties at McDonalds
15. America
17. Ghost sharks
18. Antimatter
19. People who've lawyered up



**Thursday  
December 23**

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